



**BOROUGH OF PORT TALBOT**

# **Annual Report**

of the

**Medical Officer of Health**

and the

**Chief Public Health Inspector**

**For the Year ended 31st December**

**1965**





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## **STAFF**

### **Medical Officer of Health.**

D. H. J. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (also Medical Officer of Health, Glyncoirwg Urban District Council and Divisional Medical Officer, Glamorgan County Council).

### **Chief Public Health Inspector.**

L. J. CARTER (C.S.I.B., as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector). Fellow Association of Public Health Inspectors.

### **Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector.**

I. G. HEYCOCK (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector).

### **Senior District Public Health Inspector.**

L. MORGAN (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector, also Diploma as Smoke Inspector of Royal Society of Health. Member Association of Public Health Inspectors).

### **Additional Public Health Inspectors.**

W. CORNELIUS (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector, also Diploma as Smoke Inspector of Royal Society of Health. Member Association of Public Health Inspectors).

D. H. W. GRIFFITHS (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector. Member Association of Public Health Inspectors). (Resigned March, 1965).

K. D. RATTENBURY (C.P.H.I.E.B. as Public Health Inspector and D.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector. Diploma as Smoke Inspector of Royal Society of Health. Member Association of Public Health Inspectors).

J. L. COOMBS (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector. Member Association of Public Health Inspectors).

### **Student Public Health Inspectors.**

R. WATKINS (Resigned on qualifying August, 1965).

P. R. THOMAS. K. SNOOK.

Miss K. SCRUTON (Appointed September, 1965).

### **Drain Tester and Disinfecter.**

L. GEORGE.

### **Rodent Operators.**

D. MAINWARING. T. D. REES.

### **Shorthand Typists.**

Mrs. S. A. GEORGE. Miss M. DAVIES (Resigned on marriage).  
Miss C. A. FRANCIS (Appointed September, 1965).

## REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1965

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To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of  
Port Talbot.

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Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In accordance with Circular 1/66 (Wales) from the Welsh Board of Health, the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1965 is submitted for your consideration.

The Annual Report constitutes an examination of the health and welfare circumstances within the borough boundary and incorporates a detailed statistical analysis of the circumstances pertaining to health during the period under review.

The Borough Council has been actively engaged in the field of housing and during 1965 there was an increase in the number of houses built for letting by the Local Authority. During the period under review there was a slight drop in the number of houses built by private enterprise. In Port Talbot a high proportion of the houses privately built were put up by individuals for their own occupation, many of the properties being built on plots of land leased to individual developers by the Borough Council. During the year consideration was given by the Local Authority to building houses later to be offered for sale to suitable applicants from the Corporation's housing list.

The clearance of the prefabricated bungalows on the Sandfields Estate is underway and the area is being redeveloped. During 1965 there was a slight drop in the number of applications for improvement grants, both discretionary and standard. The birth rate for 1965, although slightly higher than the national average was lower than during the preceding ten years. I have an impression that this trend will continue into 1966.

There was a slight increase in the illegitimate birth rate recorded in the borough during the year but I must point out that a certain number of illegitimate births could be attributed to non-residents who had moved into the borough prior to their confinements and who later left again.

As members are aware, the allocation of non-emergency maternity beds is made by your Medical Officer of Health. During the year the difficulty in providing adequate midwifery staffing continued but the Obstetrical Department at Neath General Hospital agreed to accept a higher number of cases for hospital confinement on condition that a higher proportion of patients were allowed out after five days to continue their post-natal care on the district. This



considerably eased the strain on the district but it has created certain problems in the Paediatric Department of the hospital as the Paediatric Consultant exercises great caution before allowing five day old babies out of hospital.

There is little to note in the death rate except that during 1965 there was a slight drop in the incidence of lung cancer deaths. This year, however, three females died of lung cancer and as more and more females seem to smoke more and more cigarettes, it is thought that this ominous trend will continue.

During the year the borough was remarkably free from infectious diseases although there was a minor measles epidemic in the Aberavon West Ward. In the field of immunisation and vaccination the work continues, triple vaccination which gives protection against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus being now in regular use in all the Local Authority Clinics. The oral Sabin vaccine is now exclusively used in protection against poliomyelitis. I believe that a higher number of protective procedures are actually carried out than appear in the statistics given below as I have a suspicion that not all immunisations are reported to me.

In the fight against tuberculosis, B.C.G. vaccination of suitable schoolchildren continues to be an important factor and the programme was carried out in all senior departments throughout the division. Some 440 children were given B.C.G. vaccination during the year. This programme now having been underway for eleven years during which period a grand total of 6,252 children have been given this valuable form of protection.

The water supplies in the borough have been adequately maintained during the year and as will be seen from Mr. Carter's section of this report a close watch was kept on both chemical and bacteriological quality of the water. No restrictions were imposed during the period under review and I am sure that this can be largely attributed to the introduction of the Neath Abstraction Scheme. There have been certain problems associated with abstraction from the River Neath, not the least of which has been the high concentration of manganese in the water. One feature which causes distress at times is the fact that there is no fine filtration of water from the various water supply points within the borough. This is particularly prevalent following heavy rain when the water supplies to certain parts of the borough are liable to discolouration and fine sediment deposits. An increase in the dosage of chlorine of course helps to overcome the bacteriological problem but adequate filtration alone can meet the problem of sediment and discolouration.

Refuse disposal continues on the tip and cover principle but the Borough Council is giving some consideration to the installation of a Pulverising Plant as land available for tip and fill is becoming progressively more difficult to find.

Sewage disposal continues as reported in previous years but consideration is at present being given to the installation of a new modern efficient sewage disposal plant and this is proposed in conjunction with the development on the Baglan Moors site.

1965 will, of course, be remembered by us all as the year when Her Majesty the Queen visited the borough in order to officially declare open the Afan Lido. Although the day itself was wet and cold it is thought that Her Majesty will remember Port Talbot for the warmth and enthusiasm of the welcome she received. The new amenity is already proving of tremendous value and interest to the town and the foresight of the Local Authority in making this provision will become increasingly apparent as time goes by. A glance at the Baths attendance figures will immediately underline this comment for the number of admittance tickets which amounted to about 23,000 at the old baths have rocketed to nearly half a million at the new baths during 1965. The Pool, of Olympic standards, is fitted out with the most modern purification and heating system, is capable of automatic breakpoint chlorination and has seating capacity alongside the pool for nearly 1,000 spectators. Water purification is on a continuous filtration and chlorination principle, water losses being made up from the Corporation mains as required. It is already apparent that this pool will attract national and international competitive events and is already in great demand by the Education Authority and school population. Adjoining the pool are ancillary facilities in the form of a lecture theatre, conference hall, restaurants, cafeterias and licensed bars. Plans are underway for the erection of a sports centre which should come into use during 1966.

In bringing these introductory remarks to a close I wish to convey my sincere thanks to all members of Council, in particular to the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee and to all my colleagues on the staff of the Authority for their support and co-operation during the year. As may, of course be recalled, I was unfortunate enough to become ill towards the end of the year and I must record my very sincere thanks to all who gave me comfort and who expressed themselves in so many kind ways during this time.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

D. H. J. WILLIAMS,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Dept.,  
(Medical Officer of Health's Office)  
Park House,  
Theodore Road,  
Port Talbot.

Port Talbot 2137/8.



## SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR, 1965.

Area of Borough (inclusive of foreshore) .....	23,444 acres
Population (Registrar General's Estimated mid-year, 1965) .....	51,810
Rateable value at 31st March, 1965 .....	£4,268,318
Product of Penny Rate for year ended 31st March, 1965 .....	£15,800
Average Rainfall in inches in the Borough .....	48.43
Number of Houses erected in 1965 .....	423
(i) By Local Authority .....	349
(ii) By other Bodies or Persons .....	74
Number of Improvement Grants made during 1965.	
(a) Discretionary .....	38 )
(b) Standard .....	22 )
	Total 60
Number of houses connected to Corporation Mains	
Water Supply .....	16,392
Number of houses supplied from standpipes .....	—
Number of properties supplied from :	
(a) Mid-Glamorgan Water Board .....	12
(b) Neath Borough .....	—
Total Population Supplied .....	51,900
Average daily consumption of water per person in gallons .....	32.8

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

### Live Births.

	Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	.....	438	409	847
Illegitimate	.....	29	16	45
Total number of live births	.....	467	425	892

	Crude	Adjusted
Live birth rate per 1,000 population .....	17.22	17.05
Live birth rate for England and Wales	—	18.00
Illegitimate Live Births. Per cent of total Live Births .....		5.04

## Still Births.

Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	9	3	12
Illegitimate	1	1	2
Total number of stillbirths	10	4	14

Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births .....	15.45
Total Live and Still Births .....	906

The following table is of interest :—

Number of live births at home in the Borough .....	91
Number of live births (Port Talbot mothers) at Neath General Hospital .....	608
Number of live births (Port Talbot mothers) at Bridgend General and other hospitals .....	93

Of all live births 78% occurred in hospital. In 1964 the percentage of births in hospital was 61 and in 1963, 65.

### Comparison of Crude Birth Rate with National Rate.

The Crude Birth Rate for the Borough continues to be higher than the national figure as can be seen from the following chart. This position has maintained itself consistently for the past ten years.

Year	Live Births	Crude Rate per 1,000	Crude Rate (England & Wales)
1956	883	18.74	15.6
1957	899	18.82	16.1
1958	1,002	20.71	16.4
1959	934	19.19	16.5
1960	1,034	21.17	17.1
1961	911	18.21	17.4
1962	977	19.10	18.2
1963	967	18.77	18.2
1964	987	19.07	18.4
1965	892	17.22	17.05

### Applications for Non-Emergency Hospital Beds.

Patients due to be confined during	1963.		1964.		1965.	
	APPLICATIONS Received. Refused.		APPLICATIONS Received. Refused.		APPLICATIONS Received. Refused.	
January	70	15	61	12	70	6
February	70	13	57	7	62	5
March	74	18	76	21	68	4
April	75	16	58	6	85	5
May	77	19	51	3	78	7
June	70	15	66	12	73	1
July	73	14	67	16	58	4
August	65	7	61	10	85	5
September	73	16	57	7	80	1
October	63	8	61	6	82	1
November	60	5	55	—	58	2
December	56	1	62	2	61	2

### Deaths.

Deaths from all causes in the area (Male 324 Female 201) .....	525
Death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population Crude, 10.13      Adjusted	13.78
Death rate for England and Wales .....	Crude 11.50

The Crude death rate for the past ten years is summarised below:—

1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955
10.11	9.82	9.78	10.18	11.50	10.07	10.89	10.57	10.52	10.05

### Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

There were no deaths from puerperal causes during 1965.

### Infant Mortality.

Neonatal deaths—14. Neonatal death rate per 1,000 live births—15.69.

Cause of death	One day— One week	One week— One month—
Haemorrhagic Pneumonia .....	—	1
Prematurity .....	6	—
Asphyxia after prolonged breech delivery .....	1	—
Pneumonia .....	—	1
Intra uterine anoxia, Post maturity atelectasis .....	1	—
Intracranial haemorrhage, difficult second stage of labour .....	1	—
Congenital heart, imperforate anus .....	1	—
Adrenal haemorrhage (bilateral), Infantile pulmonary stenosis cerebellar angioma .....	1	—
Intracranial haemorrhage .....	1	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2</b>

Deaths during one month to one year of age—6.

Acute trachea bronchitis .....	1
Acute tracheal pneumonia .....	1
Prematurity .....	1
Congestive failine, cynotic congenital heart disease (common ventricle) splenic transposition of viscera .....	1
Bronchopneumonia .....	1
Transposition of great vessels and common ventricle .....	1

For comparison purposes I append below the Infant Mortality rate for the Borough for the last ten years:—

1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
22.42	25.33	22.75	20.47	20.86	36.75	26.95	37.92	38.93	28.31

### **Infant Mortality Rates.**

Total infant deaths (under 1 year) .....	20
Rate per 1,000 total live births .....	22.42
Legitimate infant deaths .....	20
Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births .....	23.61
Illegitimate infant deaths .....	0
Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births .....	0

### **Neo-Natal Mortality Rate.**

Total neo-natal deaths (under 4 weeks) .....	14
Rate per 1,000 total live births .....	15.69

### **Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate.**

Total neo-natal deaths (under 1 week) .....	12
Rate per 1,000 total live births .....	13.45

### **Perinatal Mortality Rate.**

Total still-births and deaths under 1 week (combined)	26
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births .....	28.70

### **Maternal Mortality (including Abortion).**

Number of deaths .....	0
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births .....	0

### **Death (all Ages).**

The main causes of death in the Borough during 1965 were—

1. Cardiovascular conditions .....	173
2. Cancers of various kinds .....	82
3. Vascular lesions of the nervous system .....	66
4. Respiratory diseases (excluding Tuberculosis and Cancer) .....	81
5. Accidents .....	29

There were 12 deaths due to cancer of the lung, 9 amongst males and 3 amongst females.

This compares with: 21 deaths (19 males, 2 females) in 1964.

Of the 173 deaths from cardiovascular conditions, 122 were attributed to coronary disease. 87 men and 35 women died of coronary disease. In the previous year there were 107 deaths from coronary disease, 74 being males and 33 being females.



GLAMORGAN (ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY)—VITAL STATISTICS, 1965

	Estimated Population 1965	Number of Births	BIRTHS		Number of Deaths	DEATHS		Deaths under 1 Year	INFANT MORTALITY		PERI-NATAL MORTALITY	
			Rate per 1,000 Population Crude	Adjusted		Rate per 1,000 Population Crude	Adjusted		Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Stillbirths & Deaths under 1 Week	Rate per 1,000 Live & Still- births	
England & Wales .....	47,762,800 .....	864,000 .....	18.00 .....	.....	549,320 .....	11.50 .....	— .....	16,414 .....	19.00 .....	.....	23,606 .....	26.90 .....
Administrative County .....	761,260 .....	13,178 .....	17.31 .....	17.66 .....	9,152 .....	12.02 .....	13.58 .....	274 .....	20.79 .....	.....	402 .....	29.94 .....
Urban Districts .....	526,490 .....	9,072 .....	17.23 .....	17.75 .....	6,540 .....	12.42 .....	14.16 .....	203 .....	22.38 .....	.....	295 .....	31.89 .....
Rural Districts .....	234,770 .....	4,106 .....	17.49 .....	17.66 .....	2,612 .....	11.13 .....	12.24 .....	71 .....	17.29 .....	.....	107 .....	25.63 .....
HEALTH DIVISION.												
CONSTITUENT DISTRICTS.												
<i>Aberdare and Mountain Ash—</i>												
Aberdare Urban .....	38,900 .....	663 .....	17.04 .....	18.57 .....	597 .....	15.35 .....	15.50 .....	19 .....	28.66 .....	.....	21 .....	31.25 .....
Mountain Ash Urban .....	29,380 .....	486 .....	16.54 .....	16.54 .....	370 .....	12.59 .....	14.98 .....	15 .....	30.86 .....	.....	12 .....	24.34 .....
<i>Caerphilly and Gelligaer—</i>												
Caerphilly Urban .....	37,190 .....	768 .....	20.65 .....	20.24 .....	415 .....	11.16 .....	14.06 .....	15 .....	19.53 .....	.....	29 .....	36.66 .....
Gelligaer Urban .....	35,070 .....	690 .....	19.67 .....	19.67 .....	416 .....	11.86 .....	15.30 .....	14 .....	20.29 .....	.....	21 .....	29.37 .....
<i>Mid-Glamorgan—</i>												
Bridgend Urban .....	15,170 .....	235 .....	15.49 .....	15.95 .....	181 .....	11.93 .....	13.00 .....	6 .....	25.53 .....	.....	6 .....	25.10 .....
Maesteg Urban .....	21,510 .....	371 .....	17.25 .....	17.94 .....	258 .....	11.99 .....	14.27 .....	5 .....	13.48 .....	.....	11 .....	29.02 .....
Ogmore & Garw Urban .....	20,800 .....	337 .....	16.20 .....	16.69 .....	248 .....	11.92 .....	14.66 .....	10 .....	29.67 .....	.....	11 .....	32.26 .....
Porthcawl Urban .....	12,210 .....	221 .....	18.10 .....	20.27 .....	142 .....	11.63 .....	10.12 .....	3 .....	13.57 .....	.....	6 .....	26.79 .....
Penybont Rural .....	45,480 .....	946 .....	20.80 .....	19.97 .....	543 .....	11.94 .....	12.18 .....	19 .....	20.08 .....	.....	22 .....	22.92 .....
<i>Neath and District—</i>												
Neath M.B. ....	30,400 .....	456 .....	15.00 .....	15.60 .....	383 .....	12.60 .....	13.61 .....	13 .....	28.51 .....	.....	13 .....	28.14 .....
Neath Rural .....	40,870 .....	674 .....	16.49 .....	17.15 .....	485 .....	11.87 .....	14.36 .....	15 .....	22.26 .....	.....	24 .....	34.88 .....
<i>Pontypridd and Llantrisant—</i>												
Llantrisant Rural .....	28,650 .....	595 .....	20.77 .....	19.73 .....	271 .....	9.46 .....	12.11 .....	10 .....	16.81 .....	.....	18 .....	29.61 .....
Pontypridd Urban .....	35,170 .....	588 .....	16.72 .....	17.05 .....	451 .....	12.82 .....	12.69 .....	9 .....	15.31 .....	.....	19 .....	31.67 .....
<i>Port Talbot and Glyncoirwg—</i>												
Glyncoirwg Urban .....	9,510 .....	201 .....	21.14 .....	20.51 .....	112 .....	11.78 .....	17.32 .....	9 .....	44.78 .....	.....	13 .....	61.90 .....
Port Talbot M.B. ....	51,810 .....	892 .....	17.22 .....	17.05 .....	525 .....	10.13 .....	13.78 .....	20 .....	22.42 .....	.....	26 .....	28.70 .....
<i>South East Glamorgan—</i>												
Barry M.B. ....	42,520 .....	762 .....	17.92 .....	18.46 .....	467 .....	10.98 .....	11.97 .....	12 .....	15.75 .....	.....	22 .....	28.35 .....
Cardiff Rural .....	53,420 .....	816 .....	15.28 .....	14.82 .....	592 .....	11.08 .....	10.75 .....	11 .....	13.48 .....	.....	17 .....	20.61 .....
Cowbridge M.B. ....	1,120 .....	18 .....	16.07 .....	16.23 .....	7 .....	6.25 .....	5.94 .....	— .....	— .....	.....	— .....	— .....
Cowbridge Rural .....	21,580 .....	405 .....	18.77 .....	20.08 .....	160 .....	7.41 .....	12.15 .....	5 .....	12.35 .....	.....	5 .....	12.25 .....
Penarth Urban .....	21,750 .....	382 .....	17.56 .....	18.96 .....	271 .....	12.46 .....	11.71 .....	6 .....	15.71 .....	.....	12 .....	30.69 .....
<i>West Glamorgan—</i>												
Gower Rural .....	14,500 .....	253 .....	17.45 .....	18.85 .....	158 .....	10.90 .....	10.79 .....	5 .....	19.76 .....	.....	7 .....	27.24 .....
Llwchwr Urban .....	25,450 .....	411 .....	16.15 .....	17.28 .....	314 .....	12.34 .....	13.33 .....	8 .....	19.46 .....	.....	13 .....	31.03 .....
Pontardawe Rural .....	30,270 .....	417 .....	13.78 .....	15.57 .....	403 .....	13.31 .....	13.58 .....	6 .....	14.39 .....	.....	14 .....	32.63 .....
<i>Rhondda—</i>												
Rhondda M.B. ....	98,530 .....	1,591 .....	16.15 .....	16.63 .....	1,383 .....	14.04 .....	16.01 .....	39 .....	24.51 .....	.....	60 .....	36.88 .....





# CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS DURING 1965

as recorded by the Registrar General.

	M	F
1 Tuberculosis, respiratory .....	2	—
2 Tuberculosis, other .....	—	—
3 Syphilitic disease .....	—	—
4 Diphtheria .....	—	—
5 Whooping Cough .....	—	—
6 Meningococcal infections .....	—	—
7 Acute poliomyelitis .....	—	—
8 Measles .....	—	—
9 Other infective and parasitic diseases .....	1	—
10 Cancer of Stomach .....	13	9
11 Cancer of lung .....	9	3
12 Cancer of breast .....	—	4
13 Cancer of uterus .....	—	3
14 Other forms of cancer .....	21	16
15 Leukaemia, Aleukaemia .....	2	2
16 Diabetes .....	—	4
17 Vascular lesions of nervous system .....	31	35
18 Coronary Disease, angina .....	87	35
19 Hypertension with heart disease .....	3	2
20 Other heart disease .....	23	23
21 Other circulatory disease .....	8	7
22 Influenza .....	—	—
23 Pneumonia .....	22	14
24 Bronchitis .....	28	9
25 Other diseases of respiratory system .....	6	2
26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .....	3	—
27 Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea .....	1	2
28 Nephritis and nephrosis .....	6	4
29 Hyperplasia of prostate .....	9	—
30 Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .....	—	—
31 Congenital malformations .....	4	1
32 Other defined and ill-defined diseases .....	23	18
33 Motor vehicle accidents .....	8	3
34 All other accidents .....	13	5
35 Suicide .....	1	—
36 Homicide and operations of war .....	—	—
	324	201

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following table shows the incidence of infectious disease during 1965 as compared with 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963 and 1964.

Disease	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Scarlet Fever .....	19 .....	5 .....	3 .....	7 .....	6 .....	12
Whooping Cough .....	213 .....	12 .....	1 .....	27 .....	7 .....	12
Diphtheria .....	— .....	— .....	3 .....	— .....	— .....	—
Measles .....	197 .....	1210 .....	674 .....	593 .....	132 .....	846
Meningococcal Infection .....	— .....	1 .....	1 .....	1 .....	— .....	2
Dysentery .....	11 .....	9 .....	3 .....	6 .....	— .....	6
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	— .....	— .....	1 .....	— .....	— .....	—
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	3 .....	— .....	— .....	— .....	— .....	—
Smallpox .....	— .....	— .....	— .....	— .....	— .....	—
Paratyphoid B. ....	— .....	— .....	1 .....	— .....	— .....	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever .....	— .....	— .....	— .....	— .....	— .....	—
Erysipelas .....	5 .....	1 .....	— .....	2 .....	— .....	—
Malaria .....	— .....	— .....	1 .....	— .....	— .....	—
Poliomyelitis .....	1 .....	6 .....	— .....	— .....	— .....	—
Food Poisoning .....	4 .....	1 .....	3 .....	— .....	— .....	2
Undulant Fever .....	— .....	— .....	— .....	— .....	— .....	—
Encephalitis (infectious) .....	— .....	— .....	— .....	— .....	— .....	—
Pneumonia .....	3 .....	2 .....	1 .....	3 .....	2 .....	3

### Distribution by Wards.

	Margam West	Margam Central	Margam North	Aberavon South	Aberavon North	Aberavon East	Aberavon West	Cwmavon	TOTALS
Scarlet Fever .....	2	1	2	—	—	2	3	2	12
Whooping Cough .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Measles .....	30	83	66	29	87	47	469	35	846
Food Poisoning .....	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
Meningococcal Infection .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Dysentery .....	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	6
Pneumonia .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Tuberculosis—									
Pulmonary .....	—	3	1	6	—	—	1	—	11
Non-Pulmonary .....	1	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	5

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

### Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

During 1965, 860 persons completed their primary immunisation against poliomyelitis. 1 patient was given 3 injections of quadruple vaccine.

In addition reinforcing (booster) doses were given to 897 persons during the year.

**Poliomyelitis.**

No cases of Poliomyelitis were notified during 1965.

**Tuberculosis—B.C.G. Vaccination.**

This valuable form of protection against tuberculosis was made available to a further age group of school leavers, this being the eleventh year of the scheme.

The parents of 693 children agreed to the procedure and the children were given the preliminary skin test. Of this number 448 were found to need vaccination of which 440 submitted to and were duly vaccinated.

Those children who gave a positive reaction to the skin test were invited to the Chest Clinic where they were duly X-rayed. On this occasion 3 children were invited back for repeat X-ray examinations.

**Diphtheria Immunisation.**

During the period under review 1,248 children received their primary course of injections, 1,039 of these being born in 1964 and 1965. Some 925 older children were given their booster injections.

**Whooping Cough.**

2 children were notified as suffering from Whooping Cough during 1965. The number given protective injections amounted to 1,186.

**Smallpox Vaccination.**

	No. Vaccinated
Under 1 year .....	13
1 year .....	100
2—4 years .....	68
5—14 years .....	25
15 years or over .....	—
TOTAL .....	206

**Tuberculosis.**

I append below particulars of the number of cases on the tuberculosis register at the beginning and at the end of the year, together with details of the notifications broken down into the various age groups.

### Number of Cases on Register on 1st January, 1965—363.

	Males	Females
Pulmonary .....	160	158
Non-Pulmonary .....	14	31
Total .....	174	189

### Number of cases on Register on 31st December, 1964—321.

	Males	Females
Pulmonary .....	142	134
Non-Pulmonary .....	15	30
Total .....	157	164

Number of New Notifications .....	16
No. of In-Transfers .....	7
Total .....	23
Number restored to Register .....	—
Total .....	23

Number left district .....	12
Number died .....	5
Number recovered .....	46
Number removed from Register — Diagnosis not confirmed .....	2
Unable to trace Patient .....	—
Total .....	65

### New Cases during 1965 (formally notified):—

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year .....	—	—	—	—
Over 1 year and under 5 years .....	—	—	—	—
Over 5 years and under 10 years .....	—	—	—	—
Over 10 years and under 15 years .....	—	—	—	—
Over 15 years and under 20 years .....	1	1	—	1
Over 20 years and under 25 years .....	—	—	—	—
Over 25 years and under 35 years .....	1	—	1	1
Over 35 years and under 45 years .....	2	—	—	—
Over 45 years and under 55 years .....	1	1	—	1
Over 55 years and under 65 years .....	1	1	—	1
Over 65 years .....	2	—	—	—
Totals .....	8	3	1	4

### Cases not formally notified

(taken from local Registrar's returns):— Nil.



## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE DISTRICT.

### General Provision of Health Services.

Whilst the Borough Council is primarily concerned with the sanitary circumstances in the area, it also has an indirect interest in the services provided by the County Council as Local Health Authority, and in order that the Borough Council may have a say in the day-to-day running and administration of the Local Health Authority Services, the Borough is represented on the local Divisional Health Committee.

It has been my practice to provide for the information of the Borough Council, certain statistical details of the work carried out within the area of the Port Talbot and Glyncoirwg Health Division and I append below details of certain of the services being provided.

### Domiciliary Midwifery Service.

Total domiciliary confinements .....	263
Doctor present .....	6

### Domiciliary Nursing Service.

Total number of patients .....	1,160
Types of cases :	
Medical or Surgical .....	1,102
Tuberculous .....	58
Total number of visits .....	39,814

### Medical Comforts.

Total Issues .....	411
--------------------	-----

### Home Help Service.

Total Part-Time and Casual Helps .....	74
Types of cases attended:	
Aged and Infirm .....	376
Chronic Sick and Tuberculosis .....	78
Mentally disordered .....	1
Maternity .....	5
Others .....	12
Total .....	472

### Costs Charged :

	No.	%
Full Cost .....	13	2.75
Part Cost .....	34	7.20
Free .....	425	90.05

## **Clinic Services.**

### **Ante-Natal and Post Natal Clinics.**

Number of Women who attended Ante-Natal Clinics .....	1,231
Number of Women who attended Post-Natal Clinics .....	113

### **Infant Welfare Clinics.**

Number of Children born in 1965 who attended Infant Welfare Clinics .....	998
Number of Children born in 1964 who attended Infant Welfare Clinics .....	1,138
Number of Children born in 1960/63 who attended Infant Welfare Clinics .....	1,259
Total .....	3,395

### **Health Visitors.**

Visits to Children born in 1965 .....	1,269
Visits to Children born in 1964 .....	1,385
Visits to Children born in 1960/63 .....	2,542
Visits to Tuberculous households .....	316
Other Visits .....	183
Total .....	5,695

## **NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.**

### **Removal of Persons in need of Care and Attention.**

It did not become necessary to institute statutory action under this enactment during 1965.

### **HOUSING.**

During 1965, 423 permanent houses were completed of which 349 were built by the Council and 74 by other bodies or persons.

In order that easy comparison may be made I give below the figures for the past ten years in tabulated form.

Year.	Houses Completed by Local Authority.	Houses Completed by others.	Total
1965 .....	349 .....	74 .....	423
1964 .....	188 .....	85 .....	273
1963 .....	100 .....	90 .....	190
1962 .....	245 .....	98 .....	343
1961 .....	223 .....	116 .....	339
1960 .....	210 .....	103 .....	313
1959 .....	256 .....	63 .....	319
1958 .....	156 .....	35 .....	191
1957 .....	454 .....	48 .....	502
1956 .....	287 .....	66 .....	353

The waiting list for re-housing by the Local Authority remains h- At the end of 1965 the Housing Manager states that after an intensive screening of the lists of applications for rehousing held in his department 850 names remained on his file.

This compares with the waiting list for previous years thus:—

December 31st, 1964	.....	833
„ „ 1963	.....	1,420
„ „ 1962	.....	1,520
„ „ 1961	.....	1,700
„ „ 1960	.....	1,760
„ „ 1959	.....	1,550
„ „ 1958	.....	1,865
„ „ 1957	.....	1,695
„ „ 1956	.....	1,834
„ „ 1955	.....	1,699
„ „ 1954	.....	1,540
„ „ 1953	.....	1,650
„ „ 1952	.....	1,340
„ „ 1951	.....	1,732

I give below a table that gives an indication of some of the special categories of applicants where re-housing was effected during the period under review.

Families suffering from or exposed to Tuberculosis .....	4
Families from Condemned Houses .....	163
Families from overcrowded houses .....	4
Key Workers in Industry .....	12

#### **Housing Act, 1936—Part IV. Overcrowding.**

No cases of statutory overcrowding within the meaning of the Act were brought to the notice of the Department during the period under review.

## WATER SUPPLIES.

I summarise below a list of the sources of water brought into use during 1965.

(a) Permanent Supplies

Cwmwernderi	— 50,000,000	galls/capacity.	
Cwmgwineu	— 138,000	galls/capacity.	
Ynysygwas	— 6,000,000	galls/capacity.	
Cwm Varteg	— 30,000	galls/capacity.	} Bryn area only.
Parc-y-Bryn	— 1,700	galls/capacity.	
Cwmwernderi Intake	— 2,000	galls/capacity.	
Neath R.D.C.	—		
Cwm Philip Abstraction	—		
Mid-Glamorgan Water Board	—		
River Neath Abstraction	—		

(b) Temporary Auxiliary Supplies available to the Authority.  
Pwlllyglaw.

The temporary supplies were brought into supply as follows:-

Pwlllyglaw	1	1	65	—	11	1	65
	13	1	65	—	14	1	65
	15	1	65	—	1	4	65
	20	4	65	—	22	4	65
	8	6	65	—	15	6	65
	10	7	65	—	11	7	65
	18	7	65	—	23	7	65
	16	8	65	—	18	8	65
	26	8	65	—	9	9	65
	5	10	65	—	9	10	65
	23	12	65	—	24	12	65
	28	12	65	—	31	12	65

The average daily intake (in gallons) into the mains was as follows:—

Cwmwernderi	)	
Cwmgwineu	)	2,200,000
Ynysygwas	)	
Pwlllyglaw	—	490,000 into Ynysygwas Reservoir.

The Borough Engineer informs me that the average daily supply for industry amounts to 1,810,000 gallons.

Regular sampling for bacteriological and chemical purity is undertaken by the department and details of the samples taken are given by the Chief Public Health Inspector.

Month	Rainfall in inches Town Centre	State of Reservoirs		Restriction Districts (if any)
		Cwmwernderi	Ynysgwas	
January .....	4.48	FULL	3'—6"	—
February .....	—	1'—1"	2'—6"	—
March .....	2.75	2'—11"	4'—4"	—
April .....	1.99	FULL	5'—4"	—
May .....	3.93	FULL	1'—0"	—
June .....	3.53	FULL	2'—7"	—
July .....	4.66	FULL	5'—0"	—
August .....	3.06	0'—5"	2'—6"	—
September .....	4.11	FULL	FULL	—
October .....	1.15	1'—6"	5'—6"	—
November .....	5.30	2'—9"	2'—0"	—
December .....	10.08	FULL	3'—7"	—

#### Public Baths Attendances, 1965.

Number of Admission tickets issued .....	425,000
Number of Club Members .....	1,125
Number of Hot Baths supplied .....	267
Number of Towels and Caps hired .....	1,100
Number of School Pupils who attended .....	25,500
(18 classes with an average of 12 per class).	
Number of Police who attended .....	—

#### GENERAL INFORMATION.

##### Education.

The following information has been provided by Mr. Eben Jones, the Divisional Education Officer :—

1. Average number of pupils attending primary and secondary schools in the Borough during 1965 ..... 10,465
2. Daily average number of pupils receiving school meals during 1965 ..... 3,746
3. Daily average number of pupils receiving milk in school during 1965 ..... 7,296

##### Children's Department.

Miss Beti Jones, the Glamorgan County Council Children's Officer, has kindly supplied the following details :—

1. Number of children admitted to Children's Homes in 1965 ..... 28
2. Number of children boarded-out ..... 19
3. Number of children admitted to Approved Schools in 1965 ..... 4



## Juvenile Court.

Mr. P. H. R. Thomas, the Clerk to the Court, states that 7 children between the ages of eight and seventeen years were brought before the Juvenile Court during 1965.

## Welfare Services. Part III—Accommodation.

8 males and 7 females from Port Talbot were admitted to County Council Hostels during 1965.

HOME	Male.	Female.
"Arwelfa", Cymmer .....	6	3
"Mor-Awelon", Port Talbot .....	1	1
"Glanymor", Penmaen .....	1	—
"Trem-y-Mor" Bettws .....	—	1
"Danybryn" Pontardawe .....	—	1
"Tegfan" Aberdare .....	—	1
	<hr/> 8	<hr/> 7

At the end of the year the number on the waiting list for admission were 7 females and 1 male.

## Employment of Disabled Persons.

	Males.	Females.
Number Registered Disabled in December, 1965 .....	703	82
Number Registered Disabled placed in Employment in 1965 .....	88	4
Number Registered Disabled wholly Unemployed in December, 1965 .....	61	21

I append below details of the unemployment figures for Port Talbot for the past ten years:—

	Males.	Females.
December, 1956 .....	89	43
„ 1957 .....	87	51
„ 1958 .....	230	123
„ 1959 .....	225	70
„ 1960 .....	188	70
„ 1961 .....	276	137
„ 1962 .....	439	137
„ 1963 .....	361	153
„ 1964 .....	338	146
„ 1965 .....	458	195



**BOROUGH OF PORT TALBOT**

# **Annual Report**

of the

**Chief Public Health Inspector**

**For the Year ended 31st December**

**1965**

## **BOROUGH OF PORT TALBOT**

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To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
Borough of Port Talbot.

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Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1965, this being my fourth report as your Chief Public Health Inspector.

We were able to produce a year of fruitful work in the Department, but not without the difficulties which arose from an inability to fill a vacancy on the staff, which was created in February. Such difficulties are emphasised when they take place in a small Department such as ours, and the first impact under such circumstances is made on the basic field routine work. This important part of the Department's work inevitably is the first to suffer, but I am glad to say that the staff has shown loyalty and diligence to the extent that nothing of any urgent character has been neglected.

A major achievement was that of completely finishing our five year housing clearance programme, so that all entitled to compensation by the 13th December did in fact obtain it. These last two years of intensive work on housing clearance has brought with them much disturbance in the town by way of demolition of

properties, etc. This in turn, brought forward problems relating to movement of rats, etc., and that of having temporarily untidy sites. We therefore had to be alive to these matters and to the introduction of remedial measures.

The problem of adulterated food was one which continued in much the same manner as in the previous couple of years, and we again had the experience of receiving quite a number of complaints brought to the Department by members of the public regarding food adulterated with such matters as mould, foreign bodies, etc. These matters are fully reported upon in the appropriate section of the report.

To all my staff I have to express my thanks for a year's work well done and also to show my gratitude for their loyalty. I have, of course, worked in close contact with all members of the Public Health Committee and the Housing and Town Planning Committee and my thanks are extended to them and in particular to the Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen of these Committees. In addition, I have had, as usual, complete co-operation from the Town Clerk, Medical Officer of Health, and all heads of Departments and their staffs, and for this I am particularly grateful.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

LESLIE J. CARTER,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Report of Chief Public Health Inspector under the Public Health, Factories, and Housing Act, etc.

**GENERAL INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.**

Housing inspections and re-inspections .....	3,027
Structural Defects .....	1,275
Drains, yards, W.C's, etc. ....	953
Amusement Houses and Cinemas, etc. ....	34
Verminous premises .....	69
Dirty Premises .....	181
Accumulations .....	230
Ash Pits, Privies and Cesspools .....	34
Tents, Vans and Sheds .....	61
Dairies and Milk Shops .....	77
Food Premises, Kitchen and Food Vehicles .....	984
Houses let in lodgings, tenements, etc. ....	58
Offensive trades .....	21
Fish Friers .....	72
Factories .....	300
Ice-cream premises .....	271
Bakehouses .....	59
Want of cleanliness .....	21
Overcrowding .....	3
Unreasonable temperature .....	2
Drainage of floors .....	2
Inadequate ventilation .....	3
Insufficient sanitary accommodation .....	3
Other offences .....	5
Schools .....	35
Pig Styes and Swine Keeping .....	51
Stables, Refuse and Manure .....	18
Rats and Mice .....	9,179
Animals improperly kept .....	17
Smoke Nuisances .....	46



Meat and Other Food Inspection .....	2,051
Slaughterhouses apart from food inspection .....	49
Water Supplies .....	10
Water Sampling—Bacteriological .....	571
Water Sampling—Chemical .....	207
Food and Drugs Sampling .....	312
Milk Sampling—Bacteriological .....	41
Interviews with Owners .....	858
Atmospheric Pollution Checks .....	1,765
Public Houses .....	73
Infectious Diseases .....	3
Ice-Cream—Bacteriological Sampling .....	37
Offices and Shops .....	470
Smoke and Dust Observations .....	11
Clean Air Act Inspections .....	18
Noise Nuisance .....	20
Swimming Pools .....	40

### HOUSING INSPECTIONS.

Number of houses inspected for defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts .....	478
Number of visits of inspection in respect of same .....	3,027
Number of houses found unfit for human habitation .....	26
Number of houses found not in all respects to be reasonably fit for human habitation .....	452
Number of houses rendered fit after service of Notices .....	318

The number of nuisances discovered, together with the number of Notices served during the year were as follows:—

Nature of Inspection	Nuisances discovered	Informal Notices served	Abatement Notices served
Structural Defects .....	184	184	10
Drains, Yards, W.C's, etc. ....	266	266	3
Dirty Conditions .....	33	33	—
Pig-Styes and Swine Keeping .....	4	4	1
Rats and Mice .....	58	58	—
Accumulations .....	109	109	—
Verminous Infestations .....	4	4	—
Overcrowding .....	9	9	1
Factories .....	2	2	—
Stables, Manure and Refuse .....	2	2	—
Tents, Vans and Sheds .....	9	9	—
Smoke Nuisances .....	12	12	—
Dust Nuisances .....	5	5	—
Noise Nuisances .....	11	11	—
Redecoration .....	27	27	—
Water Supplies .....	3	3	—
Dangerous Structures .....	1	1	—
Totals .....	698	698	15

The nature of the work carried out to abate the various nuisances and contraventions was as follows:—

### Houses :

Roofs repaired 58; Walls repaired 22; Wall Plastering renewed 49; Chimneys repaired 6; Ceilings repaired 17; Doors repaired 13; Windows repaired 29; Dampness remedied 68; Air bricks supplied 63; Fireplaces repaired or renewed 13; Staircases repaired 4; Flooring Boards and skirtings repaired 26; Eaves Gutters renewed 23; Eaves Gutters cleansed 5.

### Drainage :

Drains cleansed 197; Drains tested 73; Drains re-laid 29; W.C. Compartments repaired or rebuilt 6; Rain water fall pipes repaired 13; Yards re-laid 7; Gullies provided 19; Inspection Chambers repaired 29; Vent Shafts renewed 9.

### Toilets, Fittings, etc.:

Sink Waste Pipes repaired 11; Hot Water Cysterns repaired 4; Sinks renewed 2; W.C. Cisterns repaired or renewed 14; W.C. Pans renewed 26; Sink Waste Pipes cleansed 22; Wash Hand Basins renewed 3.

### Verminous and dirty houses:

Houses dis-infested 104.

### **Accumulations:**

Accumulations removed 107.

### **Food Premises:**

Food rooms re-decorated 38; Cleanliness improved 41; Washing facilities provided or improved 10; Nail Brushes provided 22; Refuse bins provided 23; Food protected from contamination 55.

### **Food Vehicles :**

Name and address provided on vehicles 29; Hot and cold water provided 14; Nail brushes provided 17; Refuse bins provided 10; Food protected from contamination 28; Clean Head Coverings provided 3.

## **SLAUGHTERING FACILITIES AND MEAT INSPECTION.**

### **Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963.**

There is another slight, yet encouraging, increase in the number of animals slaughtered in 1965. The figure is 12,866 which compares with 12,672 for 1964, and 12,349 for 1963. Except for 1961 (13,019), the figure for 1965 is larger than any since 1956.

The increase is chiefly shown in the number of pigs slaughtered and although the number of cows killed is small (81) this is much more than usual i.e. 10 in 1964, and 4 in 1963.

The private slaughterhouse, constructed in 1963, is maintained very well and is adapted for a throughput which could be much more than present if the trade warranted it. We are pleased that we can maintain 100% meat inspection, as we have for many years. As for the last year, the charges for meat inspection continued at the rate of 50% of the maximum allowed under the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963.

The record of the number of animals killed week by week is shown on the tables on pages 31, 32 and 33. The following also gives comparative figures for the previous 10 years.

1955	30,693	1960	11,549
1956	18,721	1961	13,019
1957	11,047	1962	12,746
1958	12,590	1963	12,349
1959	12,795	1964	12,672

A full record of the amount of diseased and unsound meat condemned during the year is shown as follows:—

## SLAUGHTERHOUSE MEAT CONDEMNATIONS FOR YEAR 1965

### Bulls, Bullocks and Heifers.

#### DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS:

10 Head and Tongues	— 7 Actinobacillosis; 1 Abscess; 2 C. Bovis.
146 Lungs	— 77 Pleurisy; 3 Melanosis; 1 Emphysema; 8 Abscess; 14 Congestion; 28 Pneumonia; 17 Hydatid Cysts.
3 Hearts	— 2 Pericarditis; 1 C. Bovis.
87 Part Livers	— 3 Cirrhosis; 83 Distomatosis; 1 Abscess.
6 Spleens	— 4 Peritonitis; 1 Haemorrhage; 1 Cyst.
293 Livers	— 9 Hydatid Cysts; 3 Peritonitis; 38 Abscesses; 3 Cirrhosis; 1 Parasitic; 4 Angiomata; 234 Distomatosis; 1 Neurosis.
3 Skirts	— 1 Pleurisy; 2 Peritonitis.
2 Kidneys	— 1 Nephritis; 2 Peritonitis.
1 Carcass and organs	— Dropsy.
2 Omentum and Stomachs	— 2 C. Bovis.
2 Mesentery and Intestines	— 2 C. Bovis.
35 Livers	— 22 Distomatosis; 1 Bacterial necrosis; 8 Hydatid Cysts; 4 Angiomata.
12 Lungs	— 3 Pleurisy; 5 Hydatid Cysts; 4 Abscess.
1 Head and Tongue	— Actinobacillosis.
1 Stomach and Intestines	— Peritonitis.
1 Melt	— Peritonitis.
1 Carcass	— Oedaema and Emaciation.
2 Briskets	— Presternal calcification.

### Sheep.

1 Side	— Bruising.
1 Saddle	— Bruising.
1858 Lungs	— 40 Strongyli; 1147 Parasitic; 564 Pneumonia; 13 Pleurisy; 94 Congested.
1267 Livers	— 6 Abscess; 1 Cirrhosis; 332 Distomatosis; 926 Cysticercus; 2 Tenuicollis.
2 Hearts	— 1 Cystic; 1 Pericarditis.
4 Plucks	— 2 Pleurisy; 2 Cysticercus tenuicollis.
1 Leg	— Bruising.

## Pigs.

TUBERCULOSIS: 21 Heads.

### DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS:

1212 Lungs	— 696 Congestion; 480 Pneumonia; 35 Pleurisy; 1 Abscess.
373 Livers	— 37 Cirrhosis; 2 Cystic; 294 Ascaris Lumbricoides; 14 Parasitic.
31 Hearts	— Pericarditis 31.
15 Kidneys	— 10 Retention Cysts; 3 Hydro-nephritis; 2 Haemorrhages.
9 Stomachs & Intestines	— 9 Peritonitis.
13 Whole Plucks	— 13 Inflammation.
2 Hind Legs	— 2 Bruising.
2 Heads	— Abscesses.
2 Hocks	— Bruising.
2 Spleens	— Peritonitis.
1 Portion	— 20 lbs. bruising.

The percentage figures of diseased animals over a period of years are as follows:—

### Tuberculosis.

Year.	Cattle excluding		Sheep and			Pigs.
	Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Lambs.		
1955	7.79	8.21	—	—	—	3.64
1956	7.55	8.93	—	—	—	3.11
1957	3.53	16.66	.25	—	—	1.24
1958	6.22	20.0	—	—	—	2.36
1959	16.25	—	—	—	—	2.4
1960	.67	—	—	—	—	1.82
1961	.093	—	—	—	—	2.81
1962	0.61	—	—	—	—	1.07
1963	0.24	—	—	—	—	1.19
1964	0.08	—	—	—	—	1.07
1965	—	—	—	—	—	0.57

### Diseases other than Tuberculosis.

Year.	Cattle excluding		Sheep and			Pigs.
	Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Lambs.		
1955	40.2	80.67	6.6	18.24	—	26.25
1956	54.16	69.64	3.22	18.3	—	7.7
1957	48.82	84.72	3.51	19.88	—	27.04
1958	48.22	53.33	1.70	28.11	—	31.73
1959	50.7	50.0	2.0	21.3	—	27.6
1960	43.19	50.0	1.86	12.9	—	28.02
1961	32.92	40.0	.79	14.6	—	35.57
1962	26.86	10.0	1.5	16.01	—	38.55
1963	28.96	—	0.95	17.86	—	43.55
1964	45.84	—	—	27.98	—	36.42
1965	50.2	—	—	33.88	—	38.8



## Bovine Cysticercosis.

Year	CATTLE OTHER THAN COWS.			COWS.		
	Examined	Affected	Percentage	Examined	Affected	Percentage
1955	2015	20	0.99	207	4	1.93
1956	1549	18	1.17	56	1	1.78
1957	1415	19	1.34	72	—	—
1958	1012	23	2.27	15	—	—
1959	785	11	1.4	2	—	—
1960	889	11	1.23	2	—	—
1961	1069	10	.93	5	—	—
1962	983	3	0.31	10	—	—
1963	1257	13	1.03	4	—	—
1964	1263	9	0.71	—	—	—
1965	1032	2	0.19	81	—	—

## UNSOUND OR UNWHOLESOME FOOD CONDEMNED OR SURRENDERED FROM FOOD PREMISES THROUGHOUT THE BOROUGH DURING THE YEAR :

The system which has existed for many years of allowing retailers, etc., to bring unsound and diseased food to the Department for disposal is still followed. Surrender notes are given and this enables credit to be obtained. It is an incentive, too, to encourage proper rotation of stock and to have blown and other more defective tins taken away from sale as quickly as possible.

### Fish:

302 lbs. 12 oz.

### Fruit:

883 lbs. 13 oz.

### Vegetables:

230 lbs. 9 oz.

### Raw Meat:

543 lbs. 12 oz.

### Tinned Meat:

929 lbs. 8 oz.

### Poultry:

305 lbs.

### Tinned Milk:

35 lbs. 12 oz. 15 pints.

### Sausages:

2 lbs. 4 oz.

### Miscellaneous:

119 lbs. 10 oz.

# ANNUAL SLAUGHTERING RETURNS.

The weekly slaughtering returns for 1965 were as follows :—

1965 Week Ending	BULLS, BULLOCKS AND HEIFERS										COWS				CALVES				SHEEP		Pigs	
	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals
Jan. 3	116	12	.....	12	.....	12	.....	12	.....	12	.....	12	.....	12	.....	12	.....	12	.....	12	.....	12
10	333	26	.....	26	.....	26	.....	26	.....	26	.....	26	.....	26	.....	26	.....	26	.....	26	.....	26
17	335	30	.....	30	.....	30	.....	30	.....	30	.....	30	.....	30	.....	30	.....	30	.....	30	.....	30
24	305	26	.....	26	.....	26	.....	26	.....	26	.....	26	.....	26	.....	26	.....	26	.....	26	.....	26
31	244	25	.....	119	.....	119	.....	119	.....	119	.....	119	.....	119	.....	119	.....	119	.....	119	.....	119
Feb. 7	218	19	.....	19	.....	19	.....	19	.....	19	.....	19	.....	19	.....	19	.....	19	.....	19	.....	19
14	198	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21
21	155	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18
28	146	20	.....	197	.....	197	.....	197	.....	197	.....	197	.....	197	.....	197	.....	197	.....	197	.....	197
March 7	136	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18
14	114	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20
21	123	15	.....	15	.....	15	.....	15	.....	15	.....	15	.....	15	.....	15	.....	15	.....	15	.....	15
28	123	15	.....	15	.....	15	.....	15	.....	15	.....	15	.....	15	.....	15	.....	15	.....	15	.....	15
April 31	50	2	.....	2	.....	2	.....	2	.....	2	.....	2	.....	2	.....	2	.....	2	.....	2	.....	2
4	57	13	.....	13	.....	13	.....	13	.....	13	.....	13	.....	13	.....	13	.....	13	.....	13	.....	13
11	134	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20
18	120	9	.....	9	.....	9	.....	9	.....	9	.....	9	.....	9	.....	9	.....	9	.....	9	.....	9
25	182	25	.....	25	.....	25	.....	25	.....	25	.....	25	.....	25	.....	25	.....	25	.....	25	.....	25
30	81	7	.....	7	.....	7	.....	7	.....	7	.....	7	.....	7	.....	7	.....	7	.....	7	.....	7
May 2	52	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11
9	173	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20	.....	20
16	167	16	.....	16	.....	16	.....	16	.....	16	.....	16	.....	16	.....	16	.....	16	.....	16	.....	16
23	158	22	.....	22	.....	22	.....	22	.....	22	.....	22	.....	22	.....	22	.....	22	.....	22	.....	22
30	186	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21
June 31	53	2	.....	2	.....	2	.....	2	.....	2	.....	2	.....	2	.....	2	.....	2	.....	2	.....	2
6	91	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11
13	195	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	21
20	207	14	.....	14	.....	14	.....	14	.....	14	.....	14	.....	14	.....	14	.....	14	.....	14	.....	14
27	212	16	.....	16	.....	16	.....	16	.....	16	.....	16	.....	16	.....	16	.....	16	.....	16	.....	16
30	115	3	.....	3	.....	3	.....	3	.....	3	.....	3	.....	3	.....	3	.....	3	.....	3	.....	3
July 4	69	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11	.....	11
11	233	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18	.....	18
18	234	17	.....	17	.....	17	.....	17	.....	17	.....	17	.....	17	.....	17	.....	17	.....	17	.....	17
25	259	14	.....	14	.....	14	.....	14	.....	14	.....	14	.....	14	.....	14	.....	14	.....	14	.....	14
31	236	17	.....	17	.....	17	.....	17	.....	17	.....	17	.....	17	.....	17	.....	17	.....	17	.....	17

# Annual Slaughtering Returns—Continued.

1965 Week Ending	BULLS, BULLOCKS AND HEIFERS											
	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Cows Weekly Totals	Cows Monthly Totals	CALVES Weekly Totals	CALVES Monthly Totals	SHEEP Weekly Totals	SHEEP Monthly Totals	Pigs Weekly Totals	Pigs Monthly Totals
Aug. 1	59	1	.....	1	—	—	—	—	42	16	16	
8	312	18	.....	18	—	—	5	5	219	70	70	
14	284	17	.....	17	—	—	—	—	201	66	66	
22	258	20	.....	20	—	—	2	2	188	48	48	
29	263	15	.....	15	1	—	—	—	179	68	68	
31	109	10	.....	656	—	1	—	50	79	4100	20	2288
Sept. 5	276	18	.....	18	—	—	—	—	201	57	57	
12	322	18	.....	18	2	—	—	—	223	79	79	
19	333	22	.....	22	5	—	1	—	230	75	75	
26	349	20	.....	20	5	—	4	—	235	85	85	
30	174	12	.....	746	5	18	—	55	120	5109	37	2621
Oct. 3	106	10	.....	10	—	—	4	—	70	22	22	
10	351	24	.....	24	3	—	—	—	244	80	80	
17	339	24	.....	24	8	—	4	—	234	69	69	
24	320	20	.....	20	1	—	—	—	223	76	76	
31	316	18	.....	842	2	32	—	63	225	6105	71	2939
Nov. 7	369	29	.....	29	5	—	4	—	253	78	78	
14	369	22	.....	22	10	—	—	—	261	76	76	
21	352	22	.....	22	8	—	4	—	238	80	80	
28	350	21	.....	21	9	—	—	—	236	84	84	
30	125	5	.....	941	5	69	—	71	90	7183	25	3282
Dec. 5	234	17	.....	17	—	—	—	—	176	41	41	
12	351	24	.....	24	9	—	2	—	238	78	78	
19	334	19	.....	19	2	—	2	—	207	104	104	
26	187	8	.....	8	—	—	—	—	85	94	94	
31	214	23	.....	1032	1	81	—	75	157	8046	33	3632

### Summary of Annual Slaughter.

Bulls, Bullocks and Heifers .....	1032
Cows .....	81
Calves .....	75
Sheep .....	7946
Pigs .....	3632
GRAND TOTAL .....	12766

### Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condenned in Whole or in Part during 1965.

	Bulls, Bullocks and Heifers	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed .....	1032	81	75	7946	3632
Number Inspected .....	1032	81	75	7946	3632
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS & CYSTICERCOSIS.					
Whole carcases condemned .....	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .....	512	41	—	2366	1644
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis .....	49.6	51.8	—	29.7	45.3
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.					
Whole carcases condemned .....	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .....	—	—	—	—	21
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis .....	—	—	—	—	0.62%
CYSTICERCOSIS.					
Generalised and totally condemned .....	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .....	2	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration .....	2	—	—	—	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with Cysticercosis .....	0.19	—	—	—	—

## FOOD SUBMITTED FOR ANALYSIS.

### Inspection and Sampling of Foods and Drugs to safeguard quality, description, etc.

During the year 312 samples of various foods and drugs were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst at the County Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff.

It will be observed that of this number only 1 was adulterated—this being referred to in the next section of this report.

We maintain a system of sampling which is in accord with the recognised standards laid down for the population of the Borough and endeavour to ensure that the widest variety is sampled with an even distribution over the whole Borough. We aim, too, to have a selective method of sampling drugs—

The number and variety of foods submitted for analysis were as follows:—

Milk 48; Chicken and Mushroom Pie 2; Corned Beef 7; Cornish Pasty 1; Faggots Gravy 1; Meat Pies 2; Meat and Vegetable 3; Pâte-de-foie 1; Pork Roll 1; Sausages 3; Stewed Steak 3; Tongue and Turkey Roll 1; Luncheon tongue 1; Unsweetened Condensed Milk 5; Sweetened Condensed Milk 1; Skimmed Condensed Milk 1; Evaporated Milk 1; Milk Shake Powder 1; Mince Meat 3; Dried Mint 1; Mushroom Cubes 1; Condiment 1; Nutmeg 1; Onion Cubes 1; Canned Onions 1; Dried Peas 1; Canned Peas 1; Cut Peel 2; Pepper 1; Pickle 4; Pie Filling 1; Rice 4; Rice Pudding 1; Salmon Spread 1; Sardines 4; Cranberry Sauce 2; Soft Drinks 5; Soup 3; Spaghetti Bolognese 1; Sage and Onion Stuffing 1; Brown Sugar 3; Sugar Confectionery 2; Sultanas 2; Table Jelly 3; Tea 2; Thyme 1; Tomato Piquant 2; Vodka 2; Whisky 3; Advocaat 2; Ground Almonds 1; Beans 4; Beef Broth 1; Butter 13; Red Cabbage 2; Cheese Spread 4; Glace Cherries 2; Chocolate Beverage 3; Milk Chocolate 1; Chutney 2; Cochineal Substitute 1; Cockles 1; Desiccated Coconut 2; Coffee 1; Sterilised Cream 3; Curry 1; Fat 1; Dessert Powder 3; Fruit Cake 1; Golden Crumbs 1; Jam Sandwich 1; Madeira Cake 1; Rusks 1; Sponge 2; Diabetic Fruit 1; Fruit Salad 1; Gin 2; Lard 5; Malt Beverage 2; Margarine 5; Marmalade 2; Mayonnaise 1; Beef Curry 2; Beef and Veg. 1; Beetroot 1; Chicken Products 2; Custard Powder 2; Pilchards 1; Horse Radish Sauce 1; Ice Cream 16; Lemon Curd 2; Meat Paste 1; Canned Pork 2; Pork Pie 1; Cocktail Sausages 1; Pickled Onions 1; Sauce 1; Sea Food Dressing 1; Malt Vinegar 1; Baking Powder 1; Breakfast Biscuits 1; Caraway Seeds 1; Carrots 1; Parmesan Cheese 1; Dripping 1; Ground Ginger 1; Gravy Browning 2; Groats 1; Herring Rolls 1; Creamed Horseradish 1; Lentils 1; Raspberry Jam 1; Almond Marzipan 1; Oxo Cubes 1; Pastry Mix 1; Canned Plums 1; Rasins 1; Rusks 1; Sage 1; Semolina 2; Tapioca 2; Tomato Juice 1; Tomato Soup 1; Fish Paste 1; Breakfast Cereal 1; Crisp Bread 1; Frosting Mix 1; Pastry Mix 1; Sultana Pudding 1; Lemon Juice 1; Ham Pate 1; Paella 1; Peanut Butter 1; Instant Potato 1; Beef Suet 1.



## DRUGS AND MEDICINAL PROPS:

in 1; Backache Pills 1; Cyanocobalamin injection, B.P. 1; Epsom Salt, B.P. 1; Liquid Paraffin B.P., 1; Sulphafurazole tablets 1; Asprin Compound tablets 3; Asprin Soluble tablets, B.P., Betamethasone tablets 1; Health Salts 1; Methylprednisolone tablets 1; Paracetamol tablets, B.P., 1; Paracetamol tablets B.P., Aluminium Hydroxide gel., B.P., 1; Cod Liver Oil Emulsion 2; Cough Mixture 1; Laxative elixir 1; Magnesium Hydroxide mixture 1; Vitamin Health Drink 1.

Total Number of Samples .....	312
Genuine .....	311
Adulterated .....	1

The comparison with the previous years is as follows :—

Year	No. of Samples taken	Genuine	Not Genuine
1955	300	299	1
1956	312	304	8
1957	323	320	3
1958	337	326	11
1959	307	304	3
1960	307	305	2
1961	308	307	1
1962	308	306	2
1963	323	320	3
1964	327	320	7
1965	312	311	1

Number of samples taken per 1,000 of population—Estimated 51,000 .....	6.41
Percentage of Milks taken not conforming to standards in relation to number taken .....	Nil.
Percentage of Foods other than Milk not conforming to standards in relation to number taken .....	.32

## ADULTERATED SAMPLES.

Only one informal sample was found, on analysis to be adulterated.

This was a sample of meat pie which was not 16% of meat, calculated as raw beef on the whole pie. The Analyst was of the opinion that a meat pie should contain not less than 20% meat calculated on the whole pie.

## FOOD STANDARDS.

All the samples which are controlled by Food Standards Orders, complied with all appropriate legislation.

## PUBLIC HEALTH REGULATIONS.

Certain other general public health regulations such as those concerned with anti-oxidants, preservatives, colouring matters, lead and arsenic, emulsifiers and stabilisers were taken into consideration in the analysis of all samples, all of which complied with these regulations.

## **LABELLING.**

All the samples complied with the requirements of Labelling of Food Order 1953.

## **FOREIGN MATERIALS IN FOOD.**

One adulteration only was reported upon by the public analyst but we continued to receive many complaints from members of the public regarding adulterations of foods purchased by way of foreign objects, etc. As was the case last year, the list of complaints received was quite substantial, and are as follows:—

Dirty stain in lemonade bottle; Metal object in a tin of luncheon meat; Decolourised corned beef; Mouse contaminated chocolate; Mould in pork pie; Flour-moth in sponge mixture; Extraneous matter on the surface of a loaf of bread; Fly in a loaf of bread; Mouldy and rancid cake; Larvae of insect in a loaf of bread; Mould in meat paste; Iron Sulphide in corned beef; Cake affected with damp conditions; Sausages affected with mould; Hydrolytic rancidity in corned beef; Cake affected with mould; Beetles in a loaf of bread; Apple tart containing a dead fly; Internal corrosion in a tin of corned beef; Corned beef in a state of putrefaction due to defective tin; Mould affected butter; Brine in a lollipop; Iron sulphide in a tin of chopped pork; Insect in jar of pickles.

Every complaint was thoroughly investigated and separately reported upon, as they occurred to the Public Health Committee. Decisions as to action were arrived at after careful debate, and in some instances it was felt that the circumstances would be met by the issued of warnings and in other instances legal proceedings were instituted. On page 60 of this report will be found the results of those cases which were heard before the Magistrates.

## **The Preservatives in Food Regulations, 1962.**

### **Milk and Dairies (Preservatives) Regulations, 1962.**

#### **Milk:**

All the samples of milk, condensed milk, sterilised cream, cream, and ice-cream were free from preservations and colouring matters.

#### **Drugs and Medicinal Preparations:**

All samples of drugs were reported as satisfactory, and complied with standards as described in the British Pharmacopoeia or the requirements of the Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941, and were pure for pharmaceutical purposes.

#### **Meat and Meat Products:**

Having regard to the present state of legislation regarding meat products and sausages the public analyst was of the opinion that they were all, except one, of satisfactory composition, and were above the recommended standards proposed by the Food Standards Committee reports on canned meat products and sausages.

## THE SALE OF MILK REGULATIONS

The Regulations provide that unless milk contains a minimum of 3% fat and 8.5% milk other than milk fat it shall be presumed—unless the contrary is proved—that the milk is not genuine. The average percentage composition of the whole of the milk samples in the Borough of Port Talbot in 1965 was as follows:—

Number of milk samples taken.		Milk fat Percentage.		Non-fatty solids— Percentage.
48	.....	3.83	.....	8.64

The figures for the ten previous years were as follows :—

Year	No. of milk samples examined		Milk fat percentage		Non-fatty solids— percentage
1955	..... 84	.....	3.53%	.....	8.66%
1956	..... 72	.....	3.60%	.....	8.75%
1957	..... 65	.....	3.66%	.....	8.45%
1958	..... 59	.....	3.66%	.....	8.45%
1959	..... 40	.....	3.77%	.....	8.64%
1960	..... 62	.....	3.66%	.....	8.65%
1961	..... 44	.....	3.71%	.....	8.64%
1962	..... 44	.....	3.75%	.....	8.69%
1963	..... 65	.....	3.73%	.....	8.65%
1964	..... 56	.....	3.72%	.....	8.60%

**The Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959.**

**The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960.**

**The Milk and Dairies (Channel Islands and South  
Devon Milk). Regulations, 1956.**

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food remain responsible for duties in connection with dairy farms, and the registration of persons carrying on or proposing to engage in the business of a dairy farmer.

The Local Authority's duties are to enforce the Regulations relative to the treatment and handling of milk; the provisions regarding the infection of milk and protection against contamination, the cleansing and storage of vessels, utensils and appliances, the conveyance and distribution of milk; the registration of dairies, other than dairy farms, and of distributors.

The number of Licences granted for the sale of pasteurised, sterilised, and tuberculin tested milk in this Borough is 42.

All dairies and milk shops, etc. were regularly inspected throughout the year. Judicious sampling of milk sold from wholesale and retail establishments and during delivery to various parts of the Borough was maintained. The number of samples procured, the examination undertaken, and the result of such examination were as follows:—

#### **Milk Samples for Bacteriological Purposes:**

	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised .....	1	—
Pasteurised .....	11	—
C.I. Pasteurised .....	8	—
Sterilised .....	11	—
Homogenised Pasteurised .....	10	—
	<hr/> 41	

#### **Milk Sampled for Adulteration:**

Pasteurised .....	21	—
C.I. Pasteurised .....	6	—
Sterilised .....	11	—
Homogenised Pasteurised .....	10	—
	<hr/> 48	

It is pleasing to note that the results of the examination of all samples of milk taken were satisfactory.

In addition there are installed in 15 shops and/or restaurants milk dispensers for the supply of milk for consumption on the premises. We keep a careful watch on the purity of this method of supplying milk.

### **BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLING OF ICE CREAM**

During the year 37 samples of ice-cream were taken for bacteriological examination, of these 35 were satisfactory and classified Grade 1 and 2 were classified as unsatisfactory Grade IV. The manufacturers of these unsatisfactory samples were, of course, dealt with, and follow-up sampling indicated that the necessary improvement had been made.

### **ICE-CREAM**

We are not dissatisfied with the bacterial standards of ice-cream sold in the Borough. Out of 37 samples taken for bacteriological examination, two, one at our Beach and one from outside the area, were reported upon as being unsatisfactory and corrective measures were put into motion immediately. Another 53 samples of ice-cream, about one sixth of our total food and drug sampling activity, were taken for chemical analysis and for examination for preservatives and bactericidal substances. All were reported to be satisfactory.



We have 14 ice-cream manufacturers and 141 also registered the sale of ice-cream. Previous annual reports indicate our vigilance at all our ice-cream premises at the Beach. All told there are 8 stalls or kiosks selling ice-cream on the Promenade and in the Amusement Grounds. The staff regard the supervision of these stalls to be of prime importance and taking into account the vast sales of the product to the many thousands of holiday people, it is, I feel a credit to the standards laid down that we have not received any complaints from the public regarding the handling of ice-cream by the various retailers concerned. There are the usual number of ice-cream vehicles travelling the town. The standard has been quite reasonable and except for one instance the results of our sampling from them are satisfactory.

### **PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 16 FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955:**

Premises registered under the above Act are:—

Ice-Cream Premises 155. Fish Frying Premises 18. Sausage and prepared Meat Premises 46.

The general standard of these premises is satisfactory.

### **Number, Type and Classification of Food Premises.**

The following are the variety of food premises for which complete records are now filed at the office:—

Licensed premises .....	42
Bakehouses .....	7
Wet Fish, Fruit and Vegetables .....	9
Greengrocers .....	12
Grocers .....	168
Catering Establishments .....	16
Butchers .....	43
Wet Fish .....	4
Fish Friers .....	16
Miscellaneous .....	23

We have in addition a number of works and industrial canteens, stalls at the beach, and mobile shops.

### **WATER SAMPLES.**

Five hundred and seventy-one samples of water were taken by your Public Health Inspectors for bacteriological examination during the year. These represent a carefully selected series of samples prepared in consultation with the Medical Officer of Health so that month by month a complete check is made of every source used in the Borough for drinking purposes and also for swimming purposes in our indoor baths.



A total of one hundred and eighty-four samples were found to be bacteriologically unsatisfactory and of these one hundred and sixty were of unchlorinated water and twenty-four were taken after treatment. These are particularised as follows:—

**Before Chlorination:**

River Neath Intake .....	75
River Neath Abstraction Plant (after filtration) .....	79
Cwmbrombil Reservoir .....	5
Cwmphillip Reservoir .....	1

**After Chlorination and/or Treatment:**


River Neath Abstraction Plant .....	9
Margam Area .....	1
Aberavon Area .....	3
Sandfields Area .....	1
Cwmavon Area .....	2
Bryn Area .....	8

In addition two hundred and seven samples of water were taken for chemical analysis and only in one instance did the Public Analyst indicate that the physical characteristics were not satisfactory after treatment.

**PUBLIC HOUSES AND CLUBS.**

There are at present 42 public houses and 23 clubs in the Borough. One of these clubs only opened this year. The growth of club life is, of course, in conformity with national trends, and it is very nice to be able to report that the new clubs when constructed follow all modern concepts of design and construction, and are equipped with the very best sanitary accommodation, washing facilities, food preparations, and licensed accommodation. This, of course, permits healthy competition between clubs and public houses, which can only result in the best for both.

It is interesting to record that facilities in the licensed parts of our new Lido are also of the very best.

 Two of our public houses were dealt with because of unsatisfactory conditions existing both in the public rooms and living quarters. The New Inn, Cwmavon, has had the conditions made fit with improvements both in the living rooms and the public rooms, and we are dealing in a similar manner with the Colliers Arms, Pant-du; otherwise the conditions in the public houses generally are maintained satisfactorily.

The question of the growing practice of public houses to provide pies, pasties, potato crisps, etc., is one needing careful supervision by all public health authorities.

### **FOOD HYGIENE.**

If the basic problems in relation to food hygiene are laid on a sound and sensible foundation, there is much hope that consistency in standards to fit all kinds of food trades can be achieved.

As soon as possible after the war years, we used the food hygiene regulations made under the 1938 Food and Drugs Act, to formulate a standard system of hygiene which could be used, with adaptation, through the various food trades in the Borough. We made a detailed inspection of every food premises in the town, following in general the same line of thought throughout. We then convened meetings of the separate trades, in order to deal with the regulations, so far as they related to their own particular problems, and by this method we received an excellent response and a spirit of co-operation was produced which paid valuable dividends in the years that followed.

This pattern has been pursued throughout and by keeping to our established standards, we have found that it has not been too difficult in persuading people to follow a procedure which they know others in their particular line of business already have adopted.

We are much helped in our work in that we study the plans for proposed new food premises sent to the Borough Surveyor, and can, therefore, express our view point before matters of construction or alteration have started.

After a period of a little difficulty over the previous year or so, we were able to start the new season at the beach Fun Fair, etc., with the food stalls, etc., satisfactorily equipped with hot water and other washing facilities. The season is in general of so short a duration that it is often nearly over before we are able to adjust matters if a wrong start has been made.

Like most Authorities, we in Port Talbot, feel very dis-satisfied with standards in vehicles, stalls, etc. At the time of writing report it is encouraging to know that new regulations are to operate on the 1st January, 1967, with the object of improving to no small measure, the hygiene standards of places of this kind selling food. This is welcomed. The sales from vans in the street tend rather to be on the increase and closer control is certainly needed—especially over those vehicles, often ill-equipped, which come into the Borough for a quick sale and then disappear.

### **CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN**

On instructions of the Public Health Committee I presented to it a report giving suggestions for a Clean Food Campaign which it was thought would be held some time in 1966. The Campaign when held would be spread over a period of a week, and would be thoroughly comprehensive in its approach to the problem of clean food; and the report covered all aspects of propaganda, education, exhibition, etc. But unfortunately circumstances arose which caused the holding of the Campaign to be postponed as because of other important activities already arranged in the Borough for 1966 were already in active organisation, it was considered wise to leave the Campaign for a date later still.

### **INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.**

**Daily volumetric readings of smoke and sulphur dioxide—  
Monthly readings of deposits of grit, dust, soot, etc., and  
sulphur dioxide.**

Throughout the year we maintained our volumetric recording for smoke and sulphur dioxide at our five stations:— (a) our own Department; (b) Groeswen Hospital, Margam; (c) The Pavilion, Margam; (d) Baglan Clinic; and (e) Sandfields Library, Morrison Road. The Steel Company of Wales continued their own recordings at their own points and we exchange the analyst's results obtained.

In addition we continued our measurement of grit, dust and soot deposits and sulphur dioxide by the sulphur candle method at the Regent Cinema, Taibach, and the C.U.D. Holland Street. Following this report on page 43 is a tabulated statement showing the highest, lowest and average readings of smoke and sulphur dioxide from each of the five stations and on pages 45 and 46 are the tables giving the records and deposits of grit, dust, and soot, etc., and sulphur pollution recorded by ourselves and the Steel Company of Wales.

# Daily Recording of Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide

## Monthly Mean Readings

Month.	Station.	SMOKE			S.O. <sub>2</sub>		
		High- est. Units	Low- est. in	Aver- age. Microgrammes	High- est. per Cu.	Low- est. Centremetre.	Aver- age.
January	Office	183	3	54	130	6	56
	Groeswen	96	8	40	250	43	121
	Tollgate Park	120	0	53	198	0	87
	Clinic, Baglan	83	0	21	124	7	41
	Morrison Road Library	153	3	39	153	0	45
February	Office	181	8	71	115	13	46
	Groeswen	164	10	33	236	26	67
	Tollgate Park	101	0	44	186	0	47
	Clinic, Baglan	137	4	29	130	14	43
	Morrison Road Library	208	0	45	194	6	51
March	Office	87	9	31	73	0	31
	Groeswen	94	0	17	179	19	66
	Tollgate Park	102	9	29	124	7	37
	Clinic, Baglan	58	0	13	77	15	35
	Morrison Road Library	108	1	31	126	7	53
April	Office	55	6	32	79	6	34
	Groeswen	45	0	25	171	19	42
	Tollgate Park	68	5	32	129	0	54
	Clinic, Baglan	33	0	13	85	0	37
	Morrison Road Library	41	0	16	70	0	39
May	Office	73	12	36	74	0	36
	Groeswen	48	10	22	138	6	51
	Tollgate Park	60	17	35	106	0	40
	Clinic, Baglan	28	10	18	83	0	25
	Morrison Road Library	45	0	19	108	0	21
June	Office	59	0	11	200	0	33
	Groeswen	65	2	17	131	13	59
	Tollgate Park	73	3	26	243	7	51
	Clinic, Baglan	38	0	7	75	0	25
	Morrison Road Library	52	2	17	77	6	31
July	Office	24	0	7	62	0	22
	Groeswen	57	8	28	160	13	53
	Tollgate Park	69	8	31	113	6	39
	Clinic, Baglan	26	0	7	55	0	22
	Morrison Road Library	32	3	25	60	0	25
August	Office	26	0	10	69	0	21
	Groeswen	44	2	13	95	13	44
	Tollgate Park	44	8	23	58	0	27
	Clinic, Baglan	18	1	8	49	0	24
	Morrison Road Library	29	2	13	89	0	25
September	Office	47	1	17	78	0	24
	Groeswen	70	10	22	100	13	49
	Tollgate Park	80	17	31	75	6	33
	Clinic, Baglan	33	6	16	75	0	30
	Morrison Road Library	63	6	28	54	0	32
October	Office	51	0	21	121	6	36
	Groeswen	87	9	33	151	27	63
	Tollgate Park	88	11	42	141	10	51
	Clinic, Baglan	78	5	32	99	18	41
	Morrison Road Library	105	4	41	117	7	49
November	Office	109	6	28	70	13	31
	Groeswen	73	15	34	258	27	73
	Tollgate Park	91	14	43	144	16	55
	Clinic, Baglan	62	0	30	108	0	44
	Morrison Road Library	112	2	48	127	7	63
December	Office	32	3	13	203	7	53
	Groeswen	46	6	26	209	14	90
	Tollgate Park	85	13	32	160	16	75
	Clinic, Baglan	79	1	21	105	7	41
	Morrison Road Library	139	3	39	125	0	38



## **ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.**

The new electrostatic precipitators, to which reference made in my last annual report were completed and installed at the Open Hearth Furnaces of the Steel Company of Wales about mid-year. This is a big move forward. The Public Health Committee members were invited by the Company to visit the works to see the beneficial effects of their operation and advantage was also taken during the visit to see the precipitators at other parts of the works, in particular the Sinter Plant. Members were also shown the operation of the VLN Converter Plant.

We now know that in the foreseeable future the VLN Plant will be replaced by more modern converters equipped with precipitators. We feel confident that when this comes about a material move towards clean air in the Margam area of Port Talbot will be made. Whilst the existing plant is in operation there is no ability to convince people living in the vicinity of the Works that advancement is being made despite the physical construction of the precipitators at huge costs.

## **INSTALLATION AND PRIOR APPROVAL OF NEW FURNACES.**

Section 3 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, requires all new furnaces (except domestic ones) to be capable of being operated continuously without emitting smoke when burning fuel of a kind for which they are designed. Notification to the Local Authority is also necessary when it is intended to install a furnace exceeding an out-put of 55,000 b.t.u's per hour.

The following notices of intention to install apparatus were received from:—

1. Taibach Rugby Club, Port Talbot, in respect of a Beaton Robin Hood Gas Boiler at the Club House. (application for prior approval granted).
2. Andrew Scott (Civil Engineers) Limited, The Grange, Margam in respect of boiler apparatus (application for prior approval granted).
3. Hodges and McDevitt, in respect of boiler apparatus, Royal Naval Club, Aberavon. (application for prior approval granted).

## **RESEARCH CONDUCTED BY WELSH NATIONAL SCHOOL OF HYGIENE.**

Reference was made in my last annual report to this research being conducted by the Welsh National School of Medicine into bronchitic conditions in steel producing areas. The research has continued throughout the year and it is pleasing to feel that we are still able to be of assistance in the research.



## CONTROL OF CHIMNEY HEIGHTS.

As required, we pay proper regard to the provisions of Section 10 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, regarding the heights of chimneys, and use as our guide the Ministry of Housing and Local Government's memorandum on Chimney Heights.

## ALKALI WORKS.

The following local works and processes have been transferred to the Alkali Inspectorate under the provisions of the Alkali, etc. Works Order.

<i>Name of Firm—</i>	<i>Work or Processes Registered—</i>
Steel Company of Wales Ltd. ....	Sulphate of Ammonia, Benzene, Gas and coke, Iron and Steel (Blast Furnaces), Sinter Plant, Open Hearth Furnaces, Bessemer Furnaces, Oxygen.
Wales Gas Board .....	Gas and Coke.
The Distillers Co., Ltd. ....	Lime.
Metallurgical Chemists Ltd. ....	Nitric Acid, Arsenic.
Forth Chemicals Ltd. ....	Paraffin Oil, Hydrochloric Acid.
British Hydrocarbon Chemicals Ltd.	Paraffin Oil, Chlorine.

As usual Mr. J. C. Peabody, the District Alkali Inspector, meets me at very regular intervals, and I am able thus to be kept well informed of all aspects of his work in the Borough which are of common interest with me.

## RECORDS OF DEPOSITED POLLUTION OF DUST, SOOT, Etc.

(In tons per square mile).

Month	TAIBACH						
	1959.	1960.	1961.	1962.	1963.	1964.	1965.
January .....	48.79	43.53	70.29	104.47	6.09	17.69	79.30
February .....	14.30	62.04	74.02	35.42	4.31	14.34	3.83
March .....	23.30	14.96	13.18	x	53.83	22.01	46.07
April .....	61.47	45.93	58.87	53.21	53.04	51.37	57.25
May .....	26.97	37.48	27.89	54.42	53.49	82.78†	55.40
June .....	49.62	83.22	35.22	39.87	°	74.36†	102.77
July .....	63.28	158.23	39.36	34.42	40.45		57.25
August .....	29.91	52.46	44.18	71.65	59.44	40.19	34.66
September .....	25.58	45.07	54.49	70.77	36.24	46.19	22.93
October .....	74.37	33.50	58.87	35.90	40.76	49.86	33.53
November .....	79.28	107.45	°	34.89	°°	59.86	38.91
December .....	112.55	77.13	54.79	26.42	14.79	90.93	140.03
TOTAL .....	612.42	761.00	531.26	561.44	362.44	549.98	671.93

°Bottle tampered with.      x Bottle stolen.

°°No result—bottle blown over in wind.

† 1st May—11th June.      † 12th June—31st July.

# **DEPOSITED POLLUTION OF DUST, SOOT, Etc.** (In tons per square mile).

Records supplied by the Steel Company of Wales.

MONTH	FOUR WINDS HOTEL 1962.	THOMAS BROS.			BAGLAN HALL.			COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION		
		1962.	1963.	1964.	1965.	1962.	1963.	1964.	1965.	1965.
January	219.77	4.28	10.96	31.23	14.33	24.87	2.89	4.15	41.36	47.18
February	38.77	8.64	7.84	5.19	2.58	11.84	6.59	7.60	24.60	9.27
March	31.71	24.18	7.04	23.47	16.69	13.29	28.39	10.68	35.88	39.75
April	194.66	25.02	16.42	23.13	8.66	12.46	17.98	13.23	26.70	43.10
May		25.59	21.23	18.08	26.89	22.07	17.85	16.85	25.48	35.42
June		11.84	16.76	9.66	19.80	9.97	14.48	6.22	12.54	45.34
July		34.01	11.55	40.37	18.06	37.84	10.13	19.65	76.71	62.17
August		45.62	14.72	20.97	9.64	25.61	19.29	9.06	44.35	26.41
September		27.04	24.37	26.24	10.02	12.83	17.06	16.09	30.75	29.82
October		13.03	15.85	17.20	3.50	8.89	13.73	5.72	18.40	20.12
November		14.38	30.58	21.32	16.32	8.80	26.10	23.20	19.70	42.36
December		16.94	7.65	17.91	8.33	22.46	6.43	13.98	26.00	30.036
TOTAL	484.91	188.45	204.83	214.01	248.47	210.21	180.92	146.43	380.67	430.976

\* No. sample—funnel accidentally removed.

# **INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.**

Sulphur Pollution Records as Supplied by Steel Company of Wales.  
(Estimation by lead peroxide)

STATIONS.

MONTH	THOMAS BROS.		COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION		BAGLAN HALL, PORT TALBOT	
	1963.	1964.	1965.	1963.	1964.	1965.
January .....	2.09	1.58	2.20	1.37	1.01	1.89
February .....		2.90	1.01		1.31	0.96
March .....	2.47	2.81	2.33	°	2.23	1.83
April .....	1.21	1.80	1.09	0.75	1.55	1.36
May .....	1.88	1.11	0.61	1.00	1.64	0.87
June .....	0.43	1.90	0.53	0.86	1.69	1.16
July .....	0.32	0.41	0.37	0.64	1.02	0.80
August .....	0.51	0.50	0.43	1.39	0.78	0.75
September .....	0.62	0.29	0.62	1.19	0.50	0.81
October .....	1.41	1.08	1.57	1.18	1.04	1.55
November .....	1.11	1.28	2.24	1.08	1.58	1.89
December .....	2.60	1.56	2.38	0.99	1.31	1.87
TOTAL .....	12.65	17.22	15.38	10.55	15.66	15.74
				4.722	7.54	5.78

• No result, sample spoiled.

# **PORT TALBOT RAINFALL** (Rainfall in inches).

Month.	GROES.						
	1959.	1960.	1961.	1962.	1963.	1964.	1965.
January .....	4.89	4.82	5.26	5.17	0.51	0 80	4.93
February .....	0.45	3.51	3.05	1.78	1.97	1.86	0.07
March .....	4.43	2.15	0.60	2.51	5.42	3.42	3.17
April .....	3.59	2.71	5.97	3.14	3.98	2.07	2.94
May .....	0.83	1.09	1.60	2.98	2.04	2.60	3.12
June .....	2.74	2.19	1.82	1.08	2.62	2.01	4.07
July .....	2.90	5.53	2.45	3.13	2.31	3.25	4.62
August .....	1.60	4.08	3.96	4.50	5.06	2.76	2.08
September .....	0.37	6.08	3.83	4.92	2.51	1.74	3.66
October .....	5.24	6.04	6.99	1.28	2.35	4.28	1.31
November .....	6.91	9.77	3.88	3.06	9.73	3.01	4.85
December .....	8.83	5.35	4.34	2.59	1.53	5.76	11.12
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>52.78</b>	<b>54.32</b>	<b>43.75</b>	<b>36.14</b>	<b>40.03</b>	<b>33.56</b>	<b>45.94</b>

Month.	REGENT, TAIBACH						
	1959.	1960.	1961.	1962.	1963.	1964.	1965.
January .....	4.63	4.66	4.79	5.08	0.31	0.85	4.87
February .....	0.36	3.39	2.91	1.92	0.32	1.36	0.03
March .....	4.79	1.69	0.22	°	4.90	3.05	2.33
April .....	4.04	2.46	6.03	3.21	3.83	1.98	2.86
May .....	0.76	1.06	1.47	3.11	1.76	3.32†	3.25
June .....	2.42	1.96	1.47	0.95	°	3.34†	3.81
July .....	3.00	6.29	2.06	2.60	2.14		3.76
August .....	1.38	4.55	3.68	4.34	5.21	2.27	2.27
September .....	0.28	5.23	3.70	5.43	2.53	1.63	2.30
October .....	5.23	7.62	7.35	1.40	2.00	4.46	0.74
November .....	6.48	7.83	4.10	3.16	°	3.36	4.15
December .....	2.00	5.58	4.73	2.49	1.39	5.90	6.82
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>39.37</b>	<b>53.32</b>	<b>42.51</b>	<b>33.69</b>	<b>24.39</b>	<b>31.52</b>	<b>37.19</b>

° Bottle Broken.

† 1st May—11th June.

† 12th June—31st July.

# **PORT TALBOT SUNSHINE.** (Sunshine in hours).

Month.	GROES.						
	1959.	1960.	1961.	1962.	1963.	1964.	1965.
January .....	72.3	34.0	41.6	66.6	86.1	35.1	65.9
February .....	88.1	82.3	47.2	86.3	97.6	45.8	50.6
March .....	93.1	111.0	111.1	130.3	107.1	94.5	136.2
April .....	124.7	178.7	105.1	160.4	126.5	120.8	173.1
May .....	193.8	181.7	188.0	186.2	161.4	134.8	155.1
June .....	208.9	221.7	203.0	246.9	179.2	109.4	155.7
July .....	194.0	152.0	189.5	159.2	147.2	131.6	131.4
August .....	163.6	156.2	163.8	145.1	127.2	155.5	192.0
September .....	206.2	121.5	125.7	110.9	117.6	149.3	113.8
October .....	°	88.4	86.5	150.0	60.3	95.5	139.7
November .....	°	61.0	71.6	47.6	57.2	74.6	84.2
December .....	32.7	64.3	78.9	67.6	60.1	46.8	61.4
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>1355.4</b>	<b>1452.4</b>	<b>1412.0</b>	<b>1557.1</b>	<b>1327.5</b>	<b>1193.7</b>	<b>1459.1</b>

° Records Incomplete.

The following list indicates those chimney stacks in the rough which still come under our own supervision and those coming within the control of the Alkali Inspectorate:—

	No.	DESCRIPTION			Ground. Height above	
					Ft.	Ins.
LOCAL AUTHORITY.	( 1	Margam "A" Power House	—	5 Chimneys	105	0
	( 2A	Margam "B" Power House	—	1 Chimney	120	9
	( 2B	Margam "B" Power House	—	1 Chimney	230	0
	( 3	(Abbey Soaking Pits	—	12 Chimneys	100	0
	(	(Abbey Soaking Pits	—	7 Chimneys	161	1½
	( 4	Abbey Slab Reheating Furnaces	—	5 Recuperators	136	3¾
	( 5	Abbey Annealing Furnaces	—	9 Chimneys (Ducts)	80	0
ALKALI INSPECTORATE.	( 6	Acid Recovery Plant	—	1 Chimney	157	10
	( 7	Abbey Services Boiler House	—	3 Chimneys	120	4
		MARGAM:				
	( 8	No. 1 Blast Furnace Bleeder	—	3 Uptakes	192	8½
	( 9	No. 2 Blast Furnace Bleeder	—	3 "	233	11
	(10	No. 3 Blast Furnace Bleeder	—	3 "	233	11
	(11	No. 4 Blast Furnace Bleeder	—	3 "	251	5
	(12	No. 5 Blast Furnace Bleeder	—	3 "	253	6½
	(13	No. 1 Blast Furnace	—	1 Chimney (Stove)	203	6
	(14	No. 2 Blast Furnace	—	1 " "	203	6
	(15	No. 3 Blast Furnace	—	1 " "	203	6
	(16	No. 4 Blast Furnace	—	1 " "	242	0
	(17	No. 5 Blast Furnace	—	1 " "	242	0
	(18	No. 4 Blast Furnace Bleeder Stack	—	3 Chimneys	240	9
	(19	No. 5 Blast Furnace Bleeder Stack	—	3 "	242	0
	(20A	Blast Furnace Clean Gas Bleeder	—	1 "	114	6
	(20B	Blast Furnace Clean Gas Bleeder	—	1 "	64	9
	(21	Coke Ovens—No. 2 Battery	—	1 "	235	10
	(22	Coke Ovens—No. 3 Battery	—	1 "	235	10
	(23	Coke Ovens—No. 4 Battery	—	1 "	257	6
	(24	Coke Ovens—No. 5 Battery	—	1 "	235	8
	(25	Coke Oven Gas Bleeder Stack (New)	—	3 "	210	0
	(26	Coke Oven Bleeder Stack (Old)	—	1 "	85	0
	(27A	Sinter Plant	—	1 "	279	8¾
	(27B	Sinter Plant	—	1 "	278	10½
	(28	Sinter Strand	—	4 "	121	9
	(29	Sinter Strand	—	4 "	103	4½
	(30	Sinter Strand	—	4 "	85	7½
	(31	E.P. Plant	—	1 "	120	0
	(32	Attritor House	—	1 "	75	8
	(33	Sludge Filtration Plant	—	1 "	56	0
		ABBEY:				
	(34	Melting Shop	—	12 Chimneys * (4)	151	6¾
	(35	Dust Precipitation Plant (Maerz Furnaces)	—	1 "	220	3
	(36	No. 6 Coke Oven Battery	—	1 "	259	1
	(37	Coke Oven Gas Bleeder Stack	—	3 "	150	10
	(38	Slab Deseamer (Scarfer)	—	1 "	58	6
	(39	V.L.N. Plant Converter Stack	—	4 "	131	10
	(40	Fume Exhaust	—	4 "	100	0
	(41	Open Hearth Electrostatic Precipitator	—	1 "	220	0

\* Not in Normal Use.



## DUST NUISANCES.

We are concerned in the Public Health Committee with Dust nuisances which emanate from a coal stocking yard and a concrete block manufacturer. These are two matters which at the time of writing this report are still being dealt with, under certain difficulties, and it is hoped to be able to report more fully on these at a later date.

## FACTORIES.

The activities of your Chief Public Health Inspector's Department in relation to those duties imposed upon this Council by the Factory Acts of 1937/61 were as follows:—

### 1.—Inspection of Factories.

Premises on Register (1)	Inspection (2)	Number of written Notices (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
226	300	2	—

### 2.—Particulars Found in Factories.

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND					Referred		Cases in which prose- cutions were instituted
Particulars	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector			
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	9	9	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	3	3	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accumulation	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or de- fective	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out- works)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	12	12	—	—	—	—	—

## RODENT CONTROL.

Our two Rodent Operatives did excellent work during the year in maintaining infestation at a reasonably low level. We were able to do our two sewer treatments, and at the same time carry out our regular visitations and treatments of refuse tips, railway embankments, river banks, etc.

The notification of rodent infestations as required by subsection (i) of Section III of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, was as follows:—

Rats	.....	399
Mice	.....	79
		<hr/>
TOTAL	.....	478
		<hr/>

593 dwelling houses and 94 business premises were treated in the area. During the year the Public Health Committee gave consideration to its future policy regarding business premises, and decided that as from April, 1966, these premises as well as the private houses would be treated free of charge.

# MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES & FOOD, PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Report for 12 months ended 31st December, 1965

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Local Authority (1)	Non-Agricultural Dwelling- houses (inc. Council houses) (2)	All Other (inc. Business Premises) (3)	Total of Cols. 1, 2 & 3 (4)	Agricul- tural (5)
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	37	15,443	2,377	17,857	61
II. Total Number of properties inspected as a result of:—					
Notification .....	13	316	84	413	1
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat: Major .....	—	—	1	1	—
Minor .....	11	296	81	388	—
House Mouse: Major .....	—	—	—	—	—
Minor .....	2	20	2	24	—
III. Total number of properties inspected in the course of Survey under the Act .....	25	992	140	1,157	—
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat: Major .....	—	—	—	—	—
Minor .....	2	131	10	143	—
IV. Total number of properties otherwise inspected (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose) .....	6	612	22	640	38
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat: Major .....	—	—	—	—	—
Minor .....	—	108	—	108	—
V. Total Inspections carried out including re-inspections (To be completed only if figures are readily available) .....	196	7,152	1,142	8,490	43
VI. Number of infested properties (in Sec. II, III, and IV) treated by the L.A. ....	38	555	94	687	—
VII. Total treatments carried out (To be completed only if figures are readily available)	38	1,308	224	1,570	—
VIII. Number of notices served under Sec. 4 of the Act:—					
(a) Treatment .....	—	5	—	5	—
(b) Structural work i.e., Proofing .....	—	5	—	5	—

## Nature and Number of Baits Laid.

Pre-poisoning Baits .....	20,382
Poison Baits:—Rinoxin .....	3,907
Zinc Phosphide .....	477
Arsenious Oxide .....	358

## Maintenance Treatment of Rats in Sewers.

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food a percentage of our sewer man-holes are treated twice annually. Brief particulars of both treatments during the year are as follows:—

TREATMENT.	June/ July, 1965.	Nov./ Dec. 1965.
No. of Manholes baited .....	477	478
No. of Manholes showing bait taken	439	358

BAIT USED: Arsenious Oxide. Zinc Phosphide.

## NOISE ABATEMENT.

Continued efforts were needed, especially during the summer months, to ensure the maintenance of noise level within reasonable bounds at the amusement parks and Aberavon Beach areas. There is no doubt that the residents in nearby housing areas find conditions in this respect at times to be very difficult to bear, even when the decibel level is not unreasonable. The constant repetition of recorded music so near to their houses has an extremely adverse effect on the people living there, particularly those who are on shift work and sleeping during the day and evening, or if it concerns children who are studying and doing home lessons.

There seems to be no doubt that the nuisance and noise is no easy matter with which to deal—for instance it is not necessarily the intensity of it that is the big worry, as a small noise, if reproduced at regular intervals, can be just as irritating or even more so to the peace and rest of the individual as a big noise which is constant. The mere waiting for the next noise, however small, but knowing that it is coming, is a major disturbance in itself, especially if it occurs when one is endeavouring to sleep. In this respect I regard a small noise to be as much a nuisance to health as a big one.

A good deal of disturbance to another area of residents exists with noise from condensers at a factory. In this instance improved silencers were provided and more efficient screening constructed and this has brought about beneficial results. In yet another area of the town, the residents are disturbed by the operations of loading and unloading of coal from railway wagons and stock piles, and from the loading and unloading of timber. The operations themselves have created noise nuisances as well as the nuisance of the mechanical hoists and shovels which are used. We have endeavoured, as yet not too successfully, to bring about alleviation of the difficulties by discussion and by the provision of better silencers to petrol motors.

## **INSECT PESTS.**

We continued to be of much help to residents in the Borough who were worried with insect infestation. Our free issues of insecticide materials, powder and liquid, were found most acceptable and beneficial. The common infestations were ants, earwigs, and beetles.

We also, as hitherto, provided materials to private householders in bug infestation, and carried out our own disinfection measures in Council owned properties.

## **PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.**

Our animal establishments continued to be maintained satisfactorily, and in 1965 two licences were renewed, this being one less than the previous year.

## **ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963.**

As in 1964 we issued only one licence in respect of the boarding of animals. This establishment is maintained for the boarding, principally, of donkeys and ponies used for pleasurable purposes at our beach.

## **RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1964.**

1965 was the first year of operation of the Riding Establishments Act. We received four applications for licences. In accordance with the provisions of the Act, the Port Talbot Council engaged the services of a local veterinary surgeon, who carried out initial inspections of the premises on behalf of the Authority. Satisfactory reports were given in respect of each of the four establishments.

## **COMMON LODGING HOUSES.**

We continue to have no common lodging houses in the Borough.

## **OFFENSIVE TRADES.**

As has been the case for many years, we have only two registered offensive trades in the Borough, one in respect of rag and bone collection, and the other a fat melter and abstracter. Negotiations still proceed in respect of the latter regarding the provision of alternative and up to date premises.



### **SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964.**

1965 was the first year of registration under the provisions of this Act, and during the year we received 10 applications for registration. Of this 4 were in respect of itinerant collectors, and the remaining 6 had reference to established and permanent premises.

### **LAND CHARGES ACT, 1925.**

Four hundred and seventy two enquiries were received from the Town Clerk as a result of applications under the Land Charges Act, 1925.

### **RENT ACT, 1957—Rent Restriction Regulations, 1957.**

As was the case in the previous year there were no applications received under the provision of the Rent Restriction Regulations, 1957 for certificate of disrepair, etc.

### **INSPECTION OF CINEMAS.**

We are satisfied that the four cinemas in the Borough are maintained well. In the inspections made, and in particular those carried out at the time of the annual licensing review, certain matters relating to repairs of toilet fittings, seating accommodation and other matter of this kind are dealt with then, as well as ensuring satisfactory decorative conditions.

### **INSPECTION OF COUNCIL HOUSES.**

As a result of requests from the Housing Manager four hundred and twenty-one inspections of Council houses were made in the year in connection with applications from tenants for exchange of tenancy or termination of tenancy. This in itself has provided us with a sample cross section of our Council house tenants. Of these inspections only 14 were found to be dirty and verminous or at any rate being suspected of being verminous. This is a low number and it would seem to indicate that in general that it is not the unsatisfactory tenant who desires to move by way of exchange of houses. I believe there is an obvious explanation for that.

In addition inspections of Council houses have been carried out, either in the normal course of routine inspections or when attention has been drawn by arrangement with the Housing Manager through his Rent Collectors, and by the Property Repairs Inspectors in the Borough Engineers Department. There have certainly been a number of tenants who have caused a great deal of concern to the Housing Management Committee and the Public Health Committee because of their extremely dirty and verminous houses. A total of 51 houses have been disinfested for bug infestation. Council members are extremely alive to these problems and are searching for means of dealing with problem families. Many reasons are found to be the cause of such conditions, often due to outright laziness and sloth, often illness is a cause, sometimes unemployment and sometimes there are mental reasons. Every circumstance is examined to the most careful degree by Council.

### **STAFF.**

In March, Mr. David Griffiths, District Public Health Inspector, resigned his post in the Department to take up a similar position with the Pembroke Rural District Council. We have not yet succeeded in filling this vacancy.

During the year also, Miss Mair Davies, shorthand typist/clerk in the Department, resigned her post on marriage and her position was filled by Miss Carole Francis. Mr. Ronald Watkins succeeded in passing the Public Health Inspectors Diploma of the Public Health Inspectors Examination Board and left the Department to take up a post of District Public Health Inspector to the Borough of Watford. The vacancy, caused by Mr. Watkins leaving his post as pupil public health inspector, was filled by the appointment of Miss K. Scruton.

I am very pleased also to report that Mr. Keith Snook, one of our pupil public health inspectors, passed the Intermediate Examination of the Public Health Inspectors Diploma of the Public Health Inspectors Examination Board.

### **OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963:**

The Offices, Shops, and Railway Premises Act has now been in force two years. Our annual report on the subject for 1965 already sent to the Ministry of Labour contains the following details:

**TABLE A.**  
**REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS**

(1) Class of Premises	(2) Number of premises registered during the year	(3) Total number of registered premises at the end of the year.	(4) Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year.
Offices .....	3	168	48
Retail shops .....	7	412	165
Wholesale shops, warehouses .....	1	9	2
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens .....	1	18	15
Fuel storage depots .....	—	—	—

**TABLE B.**  
**NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY  
INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES.**

470
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**TABLE C.**  
**ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN  
REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE.**

Class of workplace (1)	Number of persons employed (2)
Offices .....	928
Retail Shops .....	1,402
Wholesale departments, warehouses .....	93
Catering establishments open to the public .....	358
Canteens .....	11
Fuel storage depots .....	—
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>2,792</b>
<b>TOTAL MALES</b> .....	<b>1,048</b>
<b>TOTAL FEMALES</b> .....	<b>1,744</b>

We were asked by the Ministry of Labour, as were other Local Authorities, to carry out a special survey of shops and offices during the months of October, November, and December, in order to provide data for the Ministry in the matter of light standards. The information was required to provide the Minister with information prior to the making of lighting regulations as empowered by the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963. I am pleased that we were able to do what was possible to provide information so far as Port Talbot was concerned for the benefit of the Ministry.

## **HOUSING ACTIVITIES.**

### **CLEARANCE OF SUB-STANDARD PROPERTIES.**

The year 1965 was a transition period in the clearance of unfit dwellings. The previous year had seen the end of a programme started in 1956 and which had embraced 797 properties, 773 of which were unfit dwellings.

Following official communication from the Welsh office of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, a report which included approximately 1,500 homes was submitted to Council in February. This report not only paid regard to unfit dwellings but also to the building of new houses and the consequent phasing of proposed demolition to proposed rebuilding.

It will be appreciated that a report which affected so many houses in areas in all parts of the Borough brought much discussion. The discussions eventually were finalised with a Council resolution in October stating that the programme of houses and properties be inspected and where possible an opportunity be given for the properties to be brought up to the standard required by the current Housing Acts. Clearance, therefore, under the Housing Acts was held up throughout the greater part of the year, and it was not until November that my Department was asked to report upon such areas as Carmarthen Row, Port Talbot; Woodland Row, Cwmavon, and Lower Row, Cwmavon, where the position was becoming urgent.

Looking back in retrospect, I would now say that the following facts have emerged:

- (a) The inspection carried out of houses within the areas affected by the report have indicated that there are in fact large numbers of unfit dwellings. Council in their efforts to help the owners of dwellings within the report agreed to consider the purchase of such dwellings. This necessitated the inspection of some 120 houses, which were found to be unfit in all but 3 cases.



- (b) Experience over the year has shown that the phasing of clearance with the building of new houses is most essential if closely-knit communities are to be retained. This can be seen in Cwmavon, where it is essential, to my mind, for building to keep pace with the clearance which is proceeding there.
- (c) Without a properly planned programme the circumstance does arise whereby individual action must be taken. The consequent re-housing of the families from the sub-standard property then poses the problem of the closed dwelling within an area of still occupied dwellings. But whatever the problems, priority must be given to the removal of families from houses which are constantly damp, often badly lighted and ventilated, and lacking the very essential services one expects in every day modern life.

With the experience gained from the many queries and discussions, and the information imparted to many people with an interest in the proposed clearance plans then one could count the year's activities to be on the credit side, but looking at the problem and considering the size it could attain in the future, then any time lost in the field work (i.e., the actual inspection of houses) only adds up to one thing, people being forced to live under sub-standard and often deplorable housing standards for a longer period than they ought.

As regards the dealing with sub-standard properties by individual procedure under the Housing Acts I am pleased to say that 26 dwellings were closed and the families rehoused. In one instance an offer to bring a dwelling up to the desired standard was accepted.

Finally, I would add that the work of clearance is a difficult one, made more so by the problems and worries which beset families. However, I am certain that with a more reasonable approach being allowed by the Ministry towards the granting of well maintained payments by a greater flexibility in the range of the "Multiplier" then many of the fears and worries would disappear forever.



## MAGISTERIAL COURT PROCEEDINGS.

Proceedings were instituted during the year in connection with the following:—

1. A grocer and a firm of bakers supplying bread to the firm were charged with selling a sliced loaf affected with mould, contrary to Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. The grocer was found not guilty and the supplying bakers were fined £10 with 6 guineas costs.
2. A grocer was fined 10 with 6 guineas costs for selling a cherry cake contaminated with dirt and mould, being an offence against Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.
3. A grocery firm was proceeded against in respect of the selling of chocolate eclairs in a mouldy condition, contrary to Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and was fined £15 with 3 guineas costs.
4. A butcher was fined £30 with 3 guineas costs for the sale of a fillet of lamb contaminated with excreta, being an offence against Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.
5. A confectioner was charged in respect of the sale of a pork pie in a mouldy condition, contrary to Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and was fined £2.
6. A grocer was fined £5 in respect of the sale of bacon being unfit for human consumption, contrary to Section 8 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.
7. A baker was charged with the sale of a loaf of bread in which was embedded a fly, contrary to Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and was fined £15, with 6 guineas costs.
8. A sweet hawker selling toffee apples was charged with offences under sub-sections (i) and (ii) of Regulation 26, and also with offences under Regulation 28 of the Food Hygiene (General Regulations, 1960), and was fined a total of £20 in respect of the three offences.
9. A baker was charged under the provisions of Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the sale of a loaf of bread containing a dead fly, and was fined £25, with 6 guineas costs.



1966

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